FBIS DAILY REPORT

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

21 JANUARY 1987

Iran-Iraq War

Iranian troops continued the Karbala 5 offensive 20-21 January, killing or wounding another 1,500 Iraqis and capturing a township west of Shalamcheh, IRNA reported. On the other hand, Iraqi military sources cited by INA maintained that the Iranian war machine faces imminent "collapse" following the failure of Iran's "decisive" offensive in which it hoped to occupy Basra. The Iraqi sources claimed that 100,000 Iranians have been killed or wounded in the Karbala 5 and 6 operations, with 90 percent of these losses in the south, where Iran has only managed to advance 2.5 km into Iraq along a 4 km front.

Iraqi military statements carried by Voice of the Masses radio announced another wave of air raids on Iranian cities 20 January, including two attacks on Qom and Esfahan, three on Hamadan, and other strikes on Khorramabad, Eslamabad-e Gharb, Tabriz, and Dezful. Iraqi aircraft struck again at Qom, Hamadan, Dezful, and Esfahan early the following morning. IRNA reported that 158 civilians were killed and 432 were injured in the 20 January raids, with the heaviest casualties in Khorramabad and Hamadan. Iranian artillery and air attacks on Iraq killed 43 civilians and injured 191, according to an Iraqi communique broadcast by Baghdad radio. A statement carried by Voice of the Masses asserted that an Iranian F-4 was downed during an Iranian raid, while INA cited an official denial of Iranian claims to have shot down three more Iraqi aircraft.

Kuwait

Oil Fires — Three small fires broke out 19 January at the Al-Maqwa oil complex south of Kuwait City, AFP reported. The fires, thought to be the work of arsonists, occurred as Arab ministers were arriving to prepare for the Fifth Islamic Summit Conference, which opens 26 January. Three extremist groups, including the Islamic Jihad, have made threats to Kuwait over the summit. The Islamic Revolutionary Movement threatened to "turn Kuwait into a tomb for most Islamic leaders at the summit," according to the AFP report.

ICO Summit — The ICO secretary general said 27 heads of state have formally notified the ICO of their participation in the forthcoming summit, KUNA reported. The agency cited reports that the presidents of Syria, Iraq, and Egypt will head their countries' delegations. Despite Iran's criticisms of the conference venue, a Kuwaiti Foreign Ministry official said an Iranian delegation will "shortly" arrive in Kuwait to attend the summit, according to KUNA. The official, cited in a statement to *Al-Qabas*, said the level of Iranian representation at the summit was as yet unknown.

Defense Ministry Warning — The Defense Ministry told residents to keep away from strange objects appearing near the coast and also warned people not to gather in areas located within the firing range of the Kuwaiti Air Force, according to KUNA. A Defense Ministry official said "dangerous" sea mines often wash up on Kuwaiti shores as a consequence of the Iran-Iraq war.

Saudi Arabia

Oil Minister Hisham Nazir discussed conditions in the international oil market with Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze in Moscow 20 January, SPA reported. The Soviet news agency TASS described the talks as "constructive."

Lebanon

Anglican Church envoy Terry Waite postponed his departure from Beirut following further talks with the kidnappers of foreigners, Voice of Lebanon radio disclosed. In another development, AFP noted that an organization calling itself the "partisans of God" threatened terrorist operations against Italian targets unless Italy releases two Lebanese arrested at Rome Airport in 1984 for possessing explosives. Regarding the death of U.S. hostage William Buckley, Iran's IRNA cited a London magazine report that he was executed by his abductors in Lebanon following an unsuccessful "military rescue operation." The Arabic weekly *Al-'Alam* also asserted that the kidnappers refused a U.S. offer of two million dollars for Buckley's release.

Afghanistan

Afghan resistance leader Gulbuddin Hikmatyar, president of the Islamic Party of Afghanistan, said the mujahidin have continued their fighting despite the DRA's cease-fire offer effective 15 January. Hikmatyar said in an interview with XINHUA that Soviet-DRA troops have sustained "heavy losses" as a result of post-cease-fire rebel attacks in Qandahar, Paktia, Kabul, Konduz, and Herat Provinces. Acknowledging the ongoing fighting, Kabul radio reported "all cease-fire conditions" had broken down in Khowst District and Parvan Province. In a statement carried by the radio 20 January, the Supreme Extraordinary National Reconciliation Commission warned that DRA forces would deal "resolute blows" to the opposition groups "in the event of the continuation of combat operations."

FBIS **DAILY REPORT**

CONTENTS

Middle East & Africa

Vol V No 013 *21 January 1987*

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW i

INTER-ARAB AFFAIRS

More Developments in ICO Summit Convocation ..... A 1
Iraqi, Syrian Presidents To Attend *[KUNA]* ..... A 1
Preparatory Meetings Begin *[KUNA]* ..... A 1
Pirzada Previews Issues *[KUNA]* ..... A 2

OPEC AFFAIRS

Nigerian Oil Minister on OPEC Summit Agreement *[London AL-MAJALLAH 7-13 Jan]* ..... B 1

ARABIAN PENINSULA

KUWAIT

Preparations Continue for Fifth ICO Summit ..... C 1
Al-Sabah Accepts 'Challenge' ..... C 1
Ministers Discuss Security ..... C 2
Tunisian Foreign Minister Arrives 20 Jan ..... C 2
Residents Warned Not To Approach Strange Objects ..... C 2

PDRY

Official Appeals for 'Ali Nasir's Extradition ..... C 2
Iraqi Envoy Briefs Al-'Attas on Gulf War ..... C 3
Aden Reports Talks With Maltese President ..... C 3
Muhammad, Libyan Envoy Discuss Relations ..... C 4
Al-Bid Addresses National Liberation Meeting ..... C 4

SAUDI ARABIA

Investment Firm Agreement Initialed With Turkey *[Bayrak Radio]* ..... C 4

YAR

Talks With Polish Delegation Begin 20 Jan ..... C 5
Cypriot Finance Minister Arrives on Visit ..... C 5
Maltese President Departs, Makes Statement ..... C 5

EGYPT

AL-ITTIHAD: Mubarak on Arab, U.S. Policies ..... D 1
Comments on Gulf War ..... D 6
Foreign Minister Leaves for ICO Sessions ..... D 6
Ghali Receives Cypriot, Chinese Officials ..... D 6
Saudi Petroleum Minister Ends 4-Day Visit ..... D 7
Sidqi Interviewed on Debit Payments, Prices *[AL-AKHBAR 13 Jan]* ..... D 7

IRAQ

Further Reports, Communiques on Recent Fighting ..... E 1
Iranian Advance 'Failed' ..... E 1

100,000 Iranians Killed ..... E 1
Communique No 2,536 ..... E 1
Iranian F-4 Shot Down ..... E 2
Aircraft Attack 4 Cities ..... E 3
Downing of 3 Planes Denied ..... E 3
Al-Miqdad Forces Repel Attacks *[AL-QADISIYAH 21 Jan]* ..... E 3
Bombing of Cities To Continue *[AL-THAWRAH 21 Jan]* ..... E 3
Planes Strike 4 Cities ..... E 3
Saddam Decorates 2 Brigades ..... E 4
VII Army Corps Actions Noted ..... E 4
II Army Corps Deeds Praised ..... E 4
Saddam Husayn Tells King Husayn of 'Victories' ..... E 4

JORDAN

Iraqi President Phones King Husayn on 'Victory' ..... F 1
U.S. Shows 'True Colors' by 'Misleading' Iraq *[JORDAN TIMES 13 Jan]* ..... F 1
Al-Rifa'i, Officials Return From European Tour ..... F 1
Minister of Information Returns From Syria ..... F 1
Foreign Ministry Supports UN Meeting on Gulf War *[JORDAN TIMES 17 Jan]* ..... F 1
Armed Forces Commander Receives SFRY Envoy 19 Jan ..... F 2
Crown Prince Leaves for United Kingdom 19 Jan ..... F 2
'Successful' Effort in Europe Worries Israel *[AL-'RAY 18 Jan]* ..... F 2

LEBANON

Waite on Meeting With Kidnappers, Extends Stay *[VOL]* ..... G 1
Reportedly Meets Hostages *[RFL]* ..... G 1
Further on Kidnapping of West German Citizen ..... G 1
Hizballah on Exchange Plan *[DPA]* ..... G 1
Iranian Envoy Denies Link *[DPA]* ..... G 1
Sources Confirm Kidnapping of 2d FRG Citizen *[DPA]* ..... G 1
'Mystery' Group Threatens Italy Over Detainees *[AFP]* ..... G 1
Paris: French Destroyer Cruises Off Lebanon ..... G 2
Nasirite Group Head Survives Assassination Try ..... G 2
6 Killed, 9 Wounded *[VOL]* ..... G 2
Amal on 'Incident' *[VOL]* ..... G 2
Amal-PSP Statement ..... G 2
PSP Condemns Attack *[Voice of the Mountain]* ..... G 2
Birri, Junblatt Meet ..... G 3
Coastal Road Reopens *[Voice of National Resistance]* ..... G 3

ISRAEL

'Technical' Agreement Signed With Jordan *['AL HAMISHMAR 21 Jan]* ..... I 1
Peres Denies Agreement ..... I 1
Orders Changed on IDF South Lebanon Activity *[HA'ARETZ 20 Jan]* ..... I 1
Peres Says South Lebanese Army 'Recovering' ..... I 2
Air Force Chief Says Lebanon Raids To Continue ..... I 2
Views Potential Iraqi Threat ..... I 2
Peres on South Africa Sanctions, Iran Affair ..... I 3
Shamir Briefs Committee on Foreign Affairs ..... I 3
Lavi Completes Third Test Flight 19 Jan ..... I 4
U.S. Proposals 'Fantastic' *[THE JERUSALEM POST 15 Jan]* ..... I 4

NORTH AFRICA

ALGERIA

Ibrahimi Interviewed on Foreign Policy ..... Q 1

LIBYA

Weekly Says Chad 'Natural Extension' of Libya ..... Q 1
GUNT President On Contacts With Other Countries ..... Q 2
Statement Issued on Algerian Minister's Visit ..... Q 2
Details of Agreement ..... Q 2
Agreement on News Agencies ..... Q 2

MAURITANIA

Soviet Official Arrives for Working Visit ..... Q 3

MOROCCO

Spanish Interior Minister Arrives for Visit ..... Q 3
Barrionuevo Interviewed *[Madrid]* ..... Q 3
Spanish Nationalists Plan Melilla Demonstrations ..... Q 4
USSR Foreign Ministry Official Arrives for Talks ..... Q 4
King Receives Saudi Crown Prince 20 Jan ..... Q 4

SUDAN

Parties Near Agreement on South Administration *[SUDAN TIMES 18 Jan]* ..... Q 4
AL-SIYASAH Criticizes Government Economic Policy *[18 Jan]* ..... Q 5

CENTRAL AFRICA

CAMEROON

Communique Signed With Hungary on Diplomatic Ties ..... S 1

CHAD

FANT on 'Mopping-Up' Operation in Zouar Area ..... S 1
Habre 'Not Very Favorable' to OAU Initiative *[AFP]* ..... S
Press Release on Libya's 'Criminal' Intentions ..... S
Ndjamena Views 'Silence' on Libyan 'Genocide' ..... S 2

ZAIRE

Trade, Economic Agreement Signed With Hungary ..... S 2
Senegalese Parliamentary Delegation Ends Visit ..... S 3

WEST AFRICA

BURKINA FASO

PRC Ambassador Received by Sankara 16 Jan ..... T 1

GHANA

Rawlings Views Chadian, African Problems *[PEOPLE'S DAILY GRAPHIC 14 Jan]* ..... T 1
Soviet Ambassador on Disarmament, Reykjavik ..... T 1

LIBERIA

Doe Reviews Shultz Visit at News Conference ..... T 2
Protestors Opposed to Shultz Visit Released *[AFP]* ..... T 3
Government Protests BBC Report on Debt Payment ..... T 3

NIGER

PRC Commerce Minister Arrives for Visit 15 Jan ..... T 4
Received by Kountche ..... T 4
Seyni Kountche Promoted to Major General ..... T 4

NIGERIA

Education Minister, Hungarian Ambassador on Ties ..... T 4
Relief Goods Shipped to Angola, Mozambique ..... T 4

SENEGAL

Diplomatic Relations Established With Bolivia ..... T 4

TOGO

Mobutu Departs; Eyadema Receives Chad, PRC Envoys ..... T 4

SOUTHERN AFRICA

MOZAMBIQUE

Nonparticipation in Machel Inquiry Explained ..... U 1
Dos Santos Speaks at People's Assembly Closing ..... U 1
Nigeria Said Sending 5,000 Troops To Fight MNR ..... U 2
Presidential Appointees Take Oaths of Office ..... U 2
Soviet Ambassador Pledges Continued Aid ..... U 3

SOUTH AFRICA

Further Reports on Machel Crash Inquiry ..... U 3
Flight Crew 'Was Lost' ..... U 3
Mozambique, USSR Do Not Attend ..... U 3
Flight's Final Moments Noted ..... U 4
Radio Operator Ordered Turn ..... U 6
'Terrorists' Kill 12 Fleeing From Petrol Bombs ..... U 6
Buthelezi Decries Attacks ..... U 6
'Permanent Restrictions' on Township Funerals ..... U 7
New SACP Head; Slovo Becomes General Secretary *[Umtata]* ..... U 7
Information Bureau Issues 19 Jan Unrest Report ..... U 7
20 Jan Unrest Report ..... U 7
21 Jan Unrest Report ..... U 8
Press Comments on Current Issues, Problems ..... U 8
19 Jan Press Review ..... U 10
20 Jan Press Review ..... U 12
21 Jan Press Review ..... U 13

ZIMBABWE

ZAPU Supports Renewal of State of Emergency *[SAPA]* ..... U 13

More Developments in ICO Summit Convocation

Iraqi, Syrian Presidents To Attend

LD210946 Kuwait KUNA in English 0836 GMT 21 Jan 87

[Text] Kuwait, Jan 21 (KUNA) — Egyptian Deputy Premier and Foreign Minister Dr. 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid hailed here Wednesday the efforts which were exerted by h.h. the amir, the government, and the people of Kuwait to ensure success of the Islamic summit conference.

In a statement to daily *Al-Watan*, 'Abd Al-Majid affirmed his country's concern with the success of the conference which is scheduled to be held here on Monday to strengthen relations between the Islamic states.

The Egyptian official who arrived here yesterday, added that the elements for the success of the conference are available.

Foreign ministers of Indonesia, Malaysia, Niger, Tunisia, People's Democratic Republic of Yemen, Burkina Faso, and Guinea Bissau arrived yesterday.

Egyptian President Husni Mubarak will lead his country's delegation to the summit, according to press reports in Kuwait and Egypt.

On the other hand, press reports here said that Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad, and Iraqi President Saddam Husayn will lead their countries' delegations to the Islamic summit conference on Monday.

In an interview with daily *Al-Qabas* chief editor Muhammad Jasim al-Saqr, Al-Asad said that Syria will participate in the fifth Islamic summit conference in Kuwait, and that he will lead his country's delegation. According to the newspaper, Al-Asad had no intention of attending until Kuwait's Deputy Premier and Foreign Minister Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad delivered a message from h.h. the amir expressing Kuwait's wish for his personal attendance.

Al-Asad's arrival was also affirmed by another local daily, *Al-Watan*, Wednesday.

In the meantime, Kuwait's ambassador to Syria Ahmad al-Jasim affirmed to daily *Al-Watan* that the Syrian president will lead his country's delegation to the fifth Islamic summit conference.

Al-Jasim added that Al-Asad's attendance will show that he is very keen that all the Islamic and the Arab goals be achieved in the conference which will be attended by all the Islamic states.

Hailing the Kuwaiti-Syrian relations, the ambassador said that they are very strong, and expressed the desire in boosting such relations in the interest of the people of the two countries.

Regarding the conference, the Kuwaiti diplomat expressed hope that participants succeed in stopping the bloodshed between the two neighbouring countries of Iran and Iraq.

Preparatory Meetings Begin

LD211014 Kuwait KUNA in English 0904 GMT 21 Jan 87

[Text] Kuwait, Jan 21 (KUNA) — Senior officials of the OIC member states started here today their meetings to prepare for the OIC foreign ministers conference, which will be followed by the fifth Islamic summit.

Morocco's permanent representative to the Arab League Mohamed al-Tazi addressed the conferees at the opening session, praising Kuwait's leadership and people for their efforts to convene this summit at its fixed date and venue to achieve "an organized Islamic work".

Al-Tazi, whose country chaired the previous OIC session, expressed hope that the meetings of the senior officials of the organization would come up with an agenda that achieves the OIC goals.

Following his speech, the Moroccan official handed over the chairmanship of this session to Kuwaiti Foreign Undersecretary Sulayman Majid al-Shahin.

After receiving the current session's chairmanship, Al-Shahin requested the conferees to elect the presidency bureau.

The Maldives representative, acting on behalf of the Asian group, the Gabon delegate representing the African group and the Palestine Liberation Organization's representative were elected vice-presidents.

Morocco's representative Al-Tazi was elected as the general rapporteur of the meetings.

Meanwhile, Senegalese representative to the meeting delivered a speech in which he thanked h.h. the amir of Kuwait for the hospitality the participating delegations have received and for the efforts he exerted to prepare for this Islamic event.

The Kuwaiti chairman, Al-Shahin, on his part welcomed the conferees and deeply thanked the Moroccan representative for the efforts he exerted during his chairmanship of the previous OIC session.

He noted that the great importance attached by the Islamic governments and peoples to the forthcoming OIC summit adds more responsibility to this preparatory meeting.

Al-Shahin added that the serious and difficult circumstances which the Islamic world witnesses and the accumulating political, economic and social problems compound the burden to be shouldered by the current meeting of the Islamic countries' senior officials.

The Kuwaiti official called on participants to draw up "clear, practical and firm bases" for their work to guarantee the success of the OIC foreign ministers meeting and the summit gathering.

Following his speech the meeting was turned into an in-camera session.

Pirzada Previews Issues

LD201450 Kuwait KUNA in English 1323 GMT 20 Jan 87

[Text] Kuwait, Jan 20 (KUNA) — Secretary General of the Organization of Islamic Conference (OIC) Sharaf al-Din Pirzada Tuesday said Islamic countries are pursuing efforts to end the Iraq-Iran war.

In a statement to KUNA, Pirzada affirmed that the leaders of the Islamic countries, who will meet here on Monday, the chairman and members of the OIC Peace Committee "will put their efforts together and they will advise something to see what can be done in the context of the circumstances (the Gulf war escalation)."

Asked if the Islamic countries will make efforts to convene a Security Council meeting at the level of foreign ministers, which was proposed by U.N. Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar to discuss the Iran-Iraq war, Pirzada said the OIC leaders, who will meet in Kuwait, will review the whole situation.

Tehran has rejected Perez de Cuellar's proposal.

Meanwhile, the OIC official affirmed that 27 heads of states have formally notified the OIC of their participation in the forthcoming summit.

Concerning the Afghanistan question and the latest peace proposal by the Kabul regime and Moscow, Pirzada said the conferees to the summit will discuss it in the light of the latest developments.

Asked on the contents of the message he received from the Soviet leadership during his last week's visit to Kuwait, he said the Soviets "have shown keen interest for coordination with OIC."

He declined to say, however, if the message has anything to do with the latest Afghanistan ceasefire proposal.

He recalled that he had visited the Soviet Union last November and noted that he was the first OIC secretary general to receive an invitation from the Soviet leadership.

Regarding the draft resolution on establishing an Islamic international court of justice, Pirzada said the draft has been finalized by the experts and will be submitted to the summit for endorsement, noting that "good progress has been made" on the issue.

He described the Israeli nuclear threat as "very serious", stressing that it is time for the OIC member-states to take into account this threat, which will be discussed during the summit.

Pirzada, who arrived here yesterday heading the OIC secretariat general's delegation, speculated that the summit will be a success.

Nigerian Oil Minister on OPEC Summit Agreement

PM201407 London AL-MAJALLAH in Arabic
7-13 Jan 86 pp 32, 33

[Interview with Nigerian Oil Minister Rilwanu Lukman by Wahib Muhammad Ghurab in Geneva; date not given]

[Excerpt] [Introductory passage omitted] [Ghurab] What is your view on the agreement you have reached?

[Lukman] I believe it is satisfactory in view of the current circumstances. We have managed to reach an agreement which, if implemented to the letter, will enable us to restore a measure of market stability and also to raise prices to $18 per barrel, if not more. Certainly, this agreement will halt the current deterioration in member countries' oil revenues; it will also restore our partners and clients' confidence.

[Ghurab] Do you believe there is any possibility of reaching a better agreement?

[Lukman] No, I do not believe so. A better agreement can be reached only if the three members [not further specified] sign and show total commitment to implementing what we decide. But if we take into account the circumstances facing the OPEC countries, including the fact that two founder members are in a real state of war, we can say that what we have achieved is beyond our expectations. It is an accomplishment for OPEC. OPEC still exists in the arena despite the explosive and changeable situation in the Middle East and the crushing Iraq-Iran war. It is no easy task for an organization to function while two of its members are in a state of armed war.

[Ghurab] What does Iran's request to suspend Iraq's membership and consequently expel it from the organization mean to you?

[Lukman] OPEC consists of sovereign states that voluntarily chose to form this organization to preserve their common and individual interests. Consequently, these states are committed to give-and-take methods. So, teamwork is expected to achieve common objectives. Leaving aside the question of the two countries that are in a state of war at present, it can be said that if one member fails to adhere to the organization's rules and regulations, a method should be found to deal with that situation. But we are in a situation in which each country exercises its sovereignty in a way that might interfere with other members' sovereignty. Therefore the organization suffers from problems. We are experiencing unusual circumstances, with both the situation in the Middle East and the Gulf. Therefore common ground for teamwork should be secured. When a member state finds itself unable to reach an accommodation with its sisters in the same organization, we should do our best to enable that member to overcome its circumstances so that it can reach an accommodation with other members. As for expulsion or suspension of membership, the organization's basic rules determine whether to allow such a step. In fact, OPEC's basic rules do not allow for the expulsion or suspension of members for any reason. But if we want to have a disciplined organization, we should have the authority to summon members who violate the organization's rules and to draw their attention to the need for discipline and conformity with the rules. OPEC now is not the same organization it was before the war, when all its members were at peace. We hope the Iraq-Iran war will end and peace will prevail so that strength and effectiveness can return to the organization.

[Ghurab] It is reported that the Saudi delegation played the principal role in reaching the recent agreement. How was this done?

[Lukman] True, the Saudi delegation played a major and effective role in reaching the agreement. It also helped us a lot to hear Gulf views on the agreement's form and content. When the situation became critical, the Saudi leadership helped us through contacts with leaderships of other concerned states, making it easy for us to reach this agreement. You probably know that the price we reached, $18, was first called for by the Saudi Government. This strengthened our endeavors and helped us secure support for this price, which is considered satisfactory. It is worth mentioning here that all member states have cooperated in this respect; even Iraq, which did not sign the agreement, was not against it because it also wanted to raise prices and reduce production to support prices. It was in the interest of member states for prices to rise and market stability to be achieved.

[Ghurab] Do you believe Iraq will voluntarily participate in this agreement, which it did not sign?

[Lukman] We hope so, because Iraq also benefits from this agreement. If we are calling upon nonmember states to cooperate with us, it would be appropriate to call on a member state to cooperate even more. Iraq's failure to sign the agreement does not mean the market or prices will be in jeopardy. Iraq realizes its responsibilities and knows its interest prompts it to cooperate with other members. It supports price rises and market stability.

[Ghurab] Do you expect the signatory states to adhere to this agreement?

[Lukman] Yes, I do expect that.

[Ghurab] But you know from your previous experience that agreements have not been respected by all member states.

[Lukman] States do not sign agreements intending to break them. I hope all signatory states will be committed to and respect all the agreement's clauses because we must not deceive ourselves or others. We expect all member states to respect the agreement because it serves their interests in the end with regard to raising prices and stabilizing the market. We have lost a lot of money in the past; therefore, I do not believe we will break the agreement, lest past mistakes be repeated.

[Ghurab] Do you trust the signatory states' determination to respect the agreement this time?

[Lukman] Yes.

[Ghurab] What do you expect from nonmember producing countries?

[Lukman] I expect full cooperation from them, especially now that OPEC has managed to put its house in order. I have received

several messages from oil ministers of nonmember states confirming their determination to support and back OPEC. We are continuing what we started before; namely, direct contacts with them to work for the interest of all petroleum-producing countries.

[Ghurab] Does this include Britain as well?

[Lukman] Why not? We will contact all producing countries, and we will use all means available to us to secure a mutual approach with all these countries, without exception.

[Ghurab] Will you personally meet with oil ministers of these countries?

[Lukman] We have a committee for contacts with producing countries; it will make such contacts.

[Ghurab] What reduction rate [in oil production] from nonmember states will satisfy you?

[Lukman] We were speaking in general of a rate of up to 10 percent.

[Ghurab] But they say they might not be able to reduce by more than 5 percent.

[Lukman] Any reduction they make, however small, will be beneficial and will support our efforts to raise the price level and achieve market stability. However, their reduction rate will be proportionate to the extent of their seriousness and eagerness to stabilize the market.

[Ghurab] Do you fear the effect of the stockpile on the new agreement?

[Lukman] No, we have no fears in this respect because the reductions we will make outweigh the market's other influential factors. In fact, we have reduced production at a higher rate than we need to. By this I mean that the expected demand for OPEC oil in the first quarter of the new year will reach approximately 17.1 million barrels per day, while our production will be approximately 15.8 million barrels. This will lead to a quick drop in the stockpile.

[Ghurab] To what extent do you believe the signatory states will be able to stand fast?

[Lukman] I believe they will be committed, although some of them might find it more difficult than others. But if we want to achieve our objective by raising the price to $18, it will not be difficult for us, because we will eventually increase our revenues. Consequently, you will find that revenue exceeds the reduction rate, however high it is. This will compensate us for reductions in production quotas.

[Ghurab] What threats might confront this agreement?

[Lukman] The only threat is a failure by the signatory states to commit themselves to and respect what they have signed. Other than that, I see no threat to the agreement.

[Ghurab] What is your next plan if the agreement succeeds?

[Lukman] In the long term we will support market stability, which we will try to reach gradually. First and foremost we are seeking to reach just prices and a stabilized market.

[Ghurab] Some people expect prices to go down after the sudden rise that followed the agreement. What is your opinion?

[Lukman] I believe these are mere predictions, nothing else.

[Ghurab] To what extent is OPEC anxious to maintain its credibility? Do you believe the agreement has achieved that?

[Lukman] Any organization always wants to maintain its credibility. OPEC is no exception. OPEC is concerned with credibility because credibility determines clients' and partners' confidence in it. The success of any steps OPEC might take depends on others believing that we mean what we say.

[Ghurab] Has OPEC abandoned its strategy of obtaining a just share in the oil market by signing the agreement?

[Lukman] I do not believe we have issued any statements in this respect. I confirm to you that OPEC is still very interested in obtaining a just share of the oil market, not just price increases. OPEC's share of the market has decreased because of the many reductions we made to maintain prices. For this reason we are seeking the cooperation of other producing countries and request them not to exploit the sacrifices we have made to flood the market with their production, as this would lead to a collapse in prices. We should have reasonable prices, but not at the expense of OPEC's share of the oil market.

[Ghurab] What will you do if demand increases above your chosen production ceiling?

[Lukman] We will meet again and decide what to do.

[Ghurab] Do you expect an extraordinary meeting to be held between now and next June?

[Lukman] This depends on possible new developments. There are clauses in the organization's basic rules specifying when and how a call for any extraordinary meeting is made. However, if everything goes well, we will not need to hold a meeting before our regular meeting scheduled for next June in Vienna.

[Ghurab] Is Nigeria satisfied with the new differences [in prices]?

[Lukman] We are happy with them. We have accepted them as an initial step on the road to fixed prices. The nice thing about the new differences is that they can be reviewed if we find that they do not fulfill the objective. We are aiming for the new differences to do well; but if they do not, we will reconsider them.

[Ghurab] What will Nigeria do if Britain and Norway reduce their oil prices?

[Lukman] In this case, we have the right to call the differences committee to meet and advise us on suitable measures.

[Ghurab] Does this mean your country will not follow them?

[Lukman] This depends on the promptness of the committee meeting. According to the existing system, the committee should meet immediately and confer with us to enable us to respond quickly.

[Ghurab] Do you believe you will radically solve the quota question to guarantee yourself permanent quotas?

[Lukman] The problem of quotas is actually thorny, but the recent agreement created a suitable basis for us to determine next year's quotas. We hope to achieve fixed quotas by then.

[Ghurab] What obstacles are preventing you from reaching fixed prices?

[Lukman] The main reason is the insistence by all member countries on increasing their quotas. As you may know, an increase in one country's quota means a decrease in another's in view of the organization's fixed production ceiling. The other reason is the basis for the distribution of these quotas. In general, sacrifices must be made, and we must give and take to achieve our objective of reasonable prices and a stabilized market.

KUWAIT

Preparations Continue for Fifth ICO Summit

Al-Sabah Accepts 'Challenge'

LD202044 Kuwait KUNA in English 1515 GMT 20 Jan 87

[Text] London, Jan 20 (KUNA) — H.H. Kuwaiti Crown Prince and Premier Shaykh Sa'd al-Abdallah al-Salim al-Sabah has asserted that the mere convening of the fifth Islamic Summit conference in Kuwait is a challenge under present circumstances "and we have accepted that challenge."

The crown prince, in an interview with Arabic-language magazine, *Al-Tadamun*, to be published here on Saturday, said that "We, in Kuwait, have chosen to accept the challenge. But it is the challenge of the positive and not the negative meaning."

The premier added that "If leaders of the Islamic nations lived up to aspiration of their peoples, the success is a sure thing and the peoples' aspirations are our duty as officials."

H.H. expressed great pleasure since the Islamic summit has "passed through the bottle neck. We have not backed from holding it and we were not intimidated by rumours that were spread by some parties."

Shaykh Sa'd stressed that, a week before the conference convenes "I declare that the concerned authorities in the country have adopted all measures necessary so there is no need to believe what some have tried to spread." "I could safely say that security that we wish for ourselves are the same that we exerted to provide for our brothers who arrive in Kuwait to participate in a summit targetting to discuss worries of the nation," he elaborated.

The crown prince, speaking with chief editor of *Al-Tadamun*, Fuad Mattar, said "If you say that the mere convening is half the success, I would like to add that what we look forward to is to complete the second part, to complete the success."

He called on "the brethern leaders to adopt the minimum limit of decisions that our Arab nation and Islamic world need."

The crown prince spoke of facilities that Kuwait provided for the conference, pointing out that Kuwait will "offer whatever the conference needs to make it a positive one."

Asked on H.H.'s hopes for the conference, he said he had a lot of hopes but summarized them in conciliation, understanding and solidarity. "Coexistance and cooperation have always been established away from disputes, blood and destruction."

Shaykh Sa'd pointed out that the Organization of Islamic Conference's Charter, issued 18 years ago, includes the doctrines that ensures coexistance, solidarity, understanding and cooperation among muslims whether they be Arabs or non-Arabs. He added "This is a worthwhile opportunity to appreciate these principles on the eve of the fifth Islamic summit."

The crown prince and premier then spoke in detail of the OIC principles, noting that the first principle is based on total equality of all member states "which is request we all want and the second stipulates respect of the self-determination and non-interference in internal affairs of member states. This doctrine is enough to satisfy all member countries."

Shaykh Sa'd noted that the third principle "recommends the respect of sovereignty, independence and territorial integrity of each member state. This along with the fourth principle stipulate solving all inter-Islamic disputes through peaceful means such as negotiations and the fifth, which recommends that member countries should not resort to force or threatening ot use force against unity, safety of lands or political independence of any member country, are enough to ensure stability and cooperation among member countries. [quotation marks as received]

He pointed out the importance of "boosting Islamic solidarity among member countries which is the first target of the charter's second article."

Shaykh Sa'd explained that he brought back to mind these goals of the OIC charter to clarify to all that the basis are there 18 years ago and urged for stabilizing these principles and targets and for ensuring commitment to them because they provide "a solution to differences and a formula for cooperation away from war which is what we need now."

He expressed conviction that the OIC principles should be translated into tangible work." [quotation marks as received]

Asked for reasons for his optimism, Shaykh Sa'd said "optimism" is part of my character. Optimism is a good aspect and that is why I am always an optimist." [quotation marks as received]

Asked on relations with Egypt and whether it will further develop, Shaykh Sa'd said "The relations improved and will continue to improve" pointing to his appreciation of Egypt's role in the political and military spheres and added he looked forward to the day when Egypt assumes its place in the Arab line.

Asked when can Egypt's return to the Arab line be realized, he said "I hope it takes place today before tomorrow or tomorrow before the day after. I even share your opinion that Egypt's return to the Arab ranks is now nearer than before."

Meanwhile, the magazine in its issue allocated for the Islamic summit in Kuwait, published brief statements for Kuwaiti Information Minister Shaykh Nasir Muhammad al-Ahmad al-Sabah expressing confidence in success of the conference.

Shaykh Nasir affirmed that the summit will convene and will be a success and added "This is our plan that we have followed since H.H. the amir invited his brothers, kings and presidents of Islamic countries, in the closing session of the Casablanca summit on January 19, 1984."

He pointed out that H.H. the amir, Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad al-Sabah, said: "On behalf of the people and Government of Kuwait, it gives me pleasure and pride to invite the conference

to hold its next meeting in Kuwait. We shall spare no effort to provide the conference with all accommodations and facilities to help it make further strides in the interest of Islamic common progress. I am quite confident that you will be welcome there as my people attach great importance to your endeavours. I would be extremely happy to see the representatives of the Muslim world meet on the soil of Kuwait, the Arab and Muslim land. With God's blessings, we shall leave this peaceful country with nice memories thereof and in the hope that we shall meet again in Kuwait to serve not only our countries and peoples but also the whole world."

Ministers Discuss Security

LD202137 Kuwait KUNA in English 1622 GMT 20 Jan 87

[Text] Kuwait, Jan 20 (KUNA) — His Highness the Crown Prince and Premier Shaykh Sa'd al-Abdallah al-Salim al-Sabah chaired a meeting for the Supreme Defense Council at the Council of Ministers headquarters at noon today with the attendence of all members of the council which consists of deputy premier and foreign minister, head of the national guards, defense minister, interior minister, finance minister, minister of state for cabinet affairs, minister of transportation, information minister, chief of general staff and defense ministry undersecretary.

The meeting was attended by public health minister, public works minister and head of the supreme preparatory committee for the fifth Islamic summit and minister of state for municipal affairs. The meeting was also attended by interior ministry undersecretary, commander of the amiri guards, director of the military authority and a number of senior officials and officers at the Defense Ministry, Interior Ministry and the National Guards.

During the meeting, various security procedures adopted on the occasion of the holding of the fifth Islamic conference here were reviewed.

H.E. the crown prince and prime minister expressed his satisfaction for the efficiency of the preparations and the adopted measures (?to) host the Islamic summit.

H.H. praised the great efforts which were exerted and are being exerted by all officials, officers, army personnel, the amiri guards, the police, the national guards, the fire department and all workers at the Ministry of Public Health for doing their duties to the utmost perfection appealing to Allah to guide all, led by his highness the amir, to work for the welfare of our beloved country and our Islamic and Arabic glorious nation.

Tunisian Foreign Minister Arrives 20 Jan

LD201605 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1533 GMT 20 Jan 87

[Text] Kuwait, 20 Jan (KUNA) — Tunisian Minister of Foreign Affairs Hedi Mabrouk arrived here this evening.

He was welcomed on arrival by the deputy prime minister and foreign minister, Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad, and the Tunisian ambassador to the State of Kuwait, Amor Fezzani.

Residents Warned Not To Approach Strange Objects

LD210832 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 0708 GMT 21 Jan 87

[Text] Kuwait, 21 Jan (KUNA) — The Kuwaiti Defense Ministry has appealed to citizens and foreign residents not to approach any strange objects near the coasts or islets, and has warned them not to assemble or wander about in the areas which lie within the range of the Kuwaiti Air Force and Air-Defense firing range.

An official source at the Kuwaiti Defense Ministry told KUNA that "the objects which have recently been more frequently reported by citizens are no more than dangerous seamines carried by water currents to the Kuwaiti coasts and islets as a consequence of the recent escalation of military operations between Iraq and Iran."

The source added: "Out of the concern for their interests, we request citizens who spend their vacations in the Challets to report these objects whenever they spot them." The source asked the citizens to "take precautions and do not approach the air force and the air defense forces' firing ranges at the two northern areas of Abraq al-Hubara and Idayri' Al-Khullah during the spring season to avoid any harm."

PDRY

Official Appeals for 'Ali Nasir's Extradition

EA202237 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 20 Jan 87

[Text] Brother Muhammad Sa'id Abdallah Muhsin, member of the Political Bureau and secretary of the YSP Central Committee, has called on all good forces to help in extraditing the criminal 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, together with 47 others who fled with him after perpetrating terrible bloody genocide against the leadership and cadres of the YSP and the sons of the Yemeni people, so that they can be tried on the basis of the constitution and the laws operating in our country.

In a press interview published by the magazine *Nidal al-Shab*, in its issue no 456 of 17 January, Brother Muhsin appealed to all those misled by the criminal 'Ali Nasir Muhammad to return to their homes, families, and jobs in accordance with the general amnesty. He reiterated the readiness of the YSP and the government of the revolution to provide them with all guarantees so that they can return and live as citizens with full rights and duties. He expressed the party's conviction that the misled would not permit those rejected by our people to force them into a position of hostility toward the homeland and the people, thereby falling into the clutches of imperialism and reaction. He said that the best evidence of this is the return of large numbers of them to their homes, families, and places of work after the criminal plans of 'Ali Nasir Muhammad and his gang became clear to them. The plans concerned the sabotage of roads, the poisoning of wells, and the worrying of citizens. He had made plans to continue acts

of assassination. This is exactly what was done before him by Ashshal, Haytham, Sabah, and others.

He said 'Ali Nasir Muhammad is but a copy of the counterrevolution in new clothes.

Touching on the martyrdom of the historic leadership of the YSP, he said this was a great loss. However, the historic leadership and the founder of our party, Brother Martyr 'Abd Al-Fattah Ismail, maintained that the revolution's safety valve is the party. He explained that, in spite of the enormity of the disaster and the great loss of our historic leadership, we managed, by our firm adherence to the principles of scientific socialism and proletarian internationalism, through the unity and cohesiveness of our party, national unity, and the rallying of the masses to their vanguard party, the YSP, to compensate for these huge losses and to implement their historic testament.

In his reply to a question on the information campaign directed by the imperialist forces and reactionaries against the revolution since the 13 January events, Brother Muhsin explained that the escalation of the campaign had one simple explanation, namely that these forces were depending on the victory of 'Ali Nasir Muhammad and the deviation of the revolution from its progressive course. These forces saw in 'Ali Nasir a new Sadat, who would settle scores with the Yemeni revolution. When 'Ali Nasir failed in his mission, these forces went mad and ordered their news media to speak ill of our revolution, party, and country.

He stressed that in spite of this feverish campaign by the imperialist and reactionary forces to harm our party, revolution and country, the reality of the situation was stronger than their propaganda. Their lies are being exposed every day and will come to an end.

Our country is ready for all to come and see things as they really are.

He expressed his confidence that the good Arab revolutionary forces would play an important role in conveying the facts to world public opinion. He said, however, that imperialist and reactionary forces would not stop their hostility toward our progressive regime.

About events in the Palestinian arena, Brother Muhsin pointed out that the comprehensive Zionist plan, currently being implemented in the Middle East, is aimed at extending imperialist hegemony over our entire region and subjecting it to plunder by the monopolist multinationals, as well as robbing our countries of the will to make political decisions. He stressed that our country's position, namely to oppose and foil this imperialist-Zionist plan, is crucial to our current struggle. He referred to the need to unify the Palestinian revolutionary factions and the PLO on the basis of its national program, and on the decisions of the 16th session of the Palestine National Council and the Aden-Algiers agreements.

Iraqi Envoy Briefs Al-'Attas on Gulf War

EA202058 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic
1230 GMT 20 Jan 87

[Text] Brother Haydar Abu Bakr al-'Attas, member of the Political Bureau and chairman of the Supreme People's Council Presidium, received in his office today Brother Nasif 'Abd al-Hamid Tawfiq, the Iraqi ambassador in Aden, with whom he reviewed fraternal bilateral relations and a number of issues of common interest. The ambassador briefed the chairman of the presidium on the latest developments in the Iraq-Iran war.

The chairman of the Supreme People's Council Presidium expressed the PDRY's increasing concern at the escalation of the war, its dangerous repercusions on the two countries, and the security of the countries in the region. He called for it to be halted, with respect for the national sovereignty of the two countries, and for the settlement of differences by peaceful means. He reiterated Democratic Yemen's position in calling for a halt to the war, which serves no one except the imperialists and Zionists, the enemies of our Arab and Islamic peoples.

Aden Reports Talks With Maltese President

EA202131 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic
0330 GMT 20 Jan 87

[Text] The first round of official talks between Democratic Yemen and the friendly Republic of Malta were held yesterday evening at the Secretariat of the Supreme People's Council Presidium under the chairmanship of Brother Haydar Abu Bakr al-'Attas, member of the Political Bureau and chairman of the Supreme People's Council Presidium, and Mrs Agatha Barbara, president of the Republic of Malta.

Brother Haydar Abu Bakr al-'Attas welcomed Her Excellency Agatha Barbara and the delegation accompanying her to Democratic Yemen. He said that her visit would contribute to the exchange of views on ways to develop relations between the two friendly countries that would serve their common interests, particularly since both sides wish to develop those relations. They also reviewed the current Arab situation and the international situations and issues concerning them. He referred to the fact that Malta has good relations with several Arab countries.

Barbara expressed her happiness at visiting Democratic Yemen and emphasized that Malta is keen to develop relations with our country as another member of the Nonaligned Movement and that numerous possibilities exist for bilateral cooperation in the interests of the two friendly peoples.

She also talked about Malta's peaceful stand on the Mediterranean situation and the importance of it being free of any military presence that threatens the security of the peoples in the area or threatens world peace. It is a stand which receives understanding and support from the world's peace-loving countries.

During the meeting, the two countries' stands on current Arab and international situations were reviewed. They also discussed the development of bilateral relations in the interests of the two peoples and in the interests of peace. The Democratic Yemeni

side praised Malta's position on Arab issues, particularly on the Palestinian Arab people and the aggressive U.S. attack on sisterly Libya, which threatened security in the Mediterranean.

Dr 'Abd al-'Aziz al-Dali, member of the Political Bureau and foreign minister; 'Ali Ahmad al-Sallami, member of the Presidium and chairman of the Foreign Relations Committee of the Supreme People's Council; and 'Abdallah Muhammad 'Uthman, minister of industry and trade and head of the Yemeni delegation, participated in the talks on the Yemeni side.

George Saliba, Maltese ambassador to Saudi Arabia; Joseph (Rosmon), secretary in the President's Office; and Joseph (Vamir), chairman of the Committee for Promoting Exports in the Ministry of Industry, participated on the Maltese side.

Muhammad, Libyan Envoy Discuss Relations

EA202111 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic
1230 GMT 20 Jan 87

[Text] Brother Salim Salih Muhammad, assistant secretary general of the YSP Central Committee and secretary of the Central Committee, met in his office this afternoon brother Muhammad 'Umar [name indistinct], secretary of the Libyan People's Bureau in Aden. During the meeting, the two reviewed fraternal bilateral relations and ways to develop and strengthen them, as well as developments in the Arab arena as a result of the growing imperialist and Zionist assault on the nationalist regimes and the progressive Arab forces, particularly U.S. provocations against the Libyan Jamahiriyah.

Brother Salim Salih Muhammad stressed our country's support and backing for the fraternal Libyan Jamahiriyah in confronting imperialist and Zionist challenges.

For his part, the secretary of the bureau stressed the Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah's continuing solidarity with our people's struggle. He expressed the Jamahiriyah's support for our country's efforts and for the unity and (?cohesiveness) of the Arab progressive nationalist forces in confronting the imperialist and Zionist assault on our Arab peoples.

Al-Bid Addresses National Liberation Meeting

EA201756 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic
1230 GMT 20 Jan 87

[Text] Brother 'Ali Salim al-Bid, secretary general of the YSP Central Committee, this morning met representatives of national liberation movements accredited to Aden. The meeting was also attended by Brothers Muhammad Sa'id Abdallah Muhsin, member of the Political Bureau and secretary of the Central Committee, and 'Abd al-Jalil Ghaylan, deputy secretary of the Central Committee.

The brother secretary general reviewed the outcome of the YSP Central Committee's seventh session. He also touched on the measures and steps taken to eliminate the effects of the 13 January bloody conspiracy and to improve our country's economy while overcoming the problems facing our country He referred to the economic plans drawn up for this purpose, according to our abilities and resources. He clarified the violations and excesses of the opportunist right in the past which harmed the national economy, had negative effects on economic development plans, and consequently, on the standard of living of our people, as well as on our economic and commerical relations with the countries of the socialist community, which deteriorated during that period.

He also spoke of the nature of the political and ideoligical struggle with the conspirator 'Ali Nasir Muhammad and his gang, which 'Ali Nasir presented in a light different to his true aim. This led party members to oppose in various ways his practices, autocratic behavior, and his lack of commitment toward the decisions of party organizations and their implementation.

He pointed out that, since the routing of the opportunist right on 13 January, the party and state had been working toward normalization in various fields. In this context, he referred to the general amnesty and the return of many of the misled people, as well as to the extension of the general amnesty to give an opportunity to those still abroad to return home. He pointed out that these measures came within the framework of strengthening ourselves in the economic, political, and social spheres. He said that the party and state would provide employment guarantees to those who return.

In conclusion, he stressed the need for strengthening relations between the YSP and the national liberation movements on the basis of our common interests in freedom, progress, and socialism. He asked the national liberation movements to overcome their differences and to work through all their organizations for the restoration of Palestinian national unity, based on the interests of the Palestinian people and on the decisions of their national councils.

SAUDI ARABIA

Investment Firm Agreement Initialed With Turkey

TA160801 (Clandestine) Bayrak Radio in Turkish to Cyprus 0600 GMT 16 Jan 87

[Text] An agreement establishing a Turkish-Saudi investment holding company with $500 million capital has been initialed in Jeddah. The agreement was initialed by Turkish Union of Chambers President Ali Coskun and his Saudi counterpart, Shaykh (Ismail Abu Dawud). Work on the company's inception will be concluded during Minister of State Kaya Erdem's 9 to 12 March visit to Saudi Arabia during which the fourth round of Turkish-Saudi joint economic committee meetings will be held.

Meanwhile, the Islamic Development Bank in Jeddah has decided to extend a loan of $16.5 million to Turkey for a railways modernization project. The loan agreement was signed in Jeddah. The Islamic Development Bank has extended $40 million in loans to Turkey in the last 5 months.

YAR

Talks With Polish Delegation Begin 20 Jan

JN201852 Sanaa Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 20 Jan 87

[Excerpts] This evening official talks opened between our country and the friendly Polish People's Republic on educational and cultural matters. The Yemeni side was headed by Minister of Education Muhammad al-Jayfi, and the Polish side by Benon Miskiewicz, minister of science, higher education, and technology. [passage omitted]

The Polish minister said he hoped that bilateral educational and cultural cooperation would be further developed and Miskiewicz then reviewed his country's progress in scientific research.

Cypriot Finance Minister Arrives on Visit

JN201350 Sanaa Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 20 Jan 87

[Text] Khristos Mavrellis, Cypriot finance minister, arrived in Sanaa on a visit of several days to our country. He told *SABA' News Agency* he was carrying a letter from President Kiprianou to brother Colonel President 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, commander in chief of the Armed Forces and secretary general of the General People's Congress on bilateral ties and the situation in the Republic of Cyprus. Welcoming the Cypriot minister at the airport were Minister of Finance [name indistinct], and an official of the Presidency Protocol.

Maltese President Departs, Makes Statement

JN191339 Sanaa Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 19 Jan 87

[Excerpts] Her Excellency President Agatha Barbara of the Republic of Malta left Sanaa, ending a visit of several days to our country. On hand at Sanaa International Airport to bid her farewell were Prime Minister Brother 'Abd al-'Aziz 'Abd al-Ghani, member of the Standing Committee; Deputy Prime Minister Dr Hasan Makki, member of the Standing Committee; Minister of Agriculture and Fisheries Dr Husayn al-'Amri, member of the Standing Committee and head of the escort mission; and our country's ambassador in Malta. [passage omitted]

President Barbara told the *SABA' News Agency* that her talks with President 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih and Prime Minister 'Abd al-'Aziz 'Abd al-Ghani as well as with other officials were fruitful, and showed that both sides are interested in developing relations between the YAR and the Republic of Malta. The talks, she added, concerned the prospect of cooperation in education, information and culture, and civil aviation. The talks also touched on international developments and their implications for the two countries. Despite its brevity, the visit demonstrates a desire on the part of the two peoples to upgrade their cooperation, she said, and concluded by voicing admiration for our country's development in various spheres, and gratitude for the warm hospitality with which she and her delegation were greeted. [passage omitted]

AL-ITTIHAD: Mubarak on Arab, U.S. Policies
NC171158 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1100 GMT
17 Jan 87

[Excerpts] Abu Dhabi, 17 Jan (MENA) — President Husni Mubarak has asserted the importance of summit conferences, saying they have great value. He said: My criticism is that Arab summit conferences have not been convened, despite the fact the Arab region has numerous problems requiring the convocation of a summit at least twice a year. Were such summits held, a lot of problems would have been resolved.

The president noted the Kuwait summit meetings are extremely vital and will contribute to eliminating misunderstandings among states.

Referring to the Palestinian issue, the president said: I am 100 percent in favor of any effort leading to the settlement of the Palestinian issue and the restoration of stability, peace, and security in the Arab region. I will bow with respect and appreciation to any person who makes an effort or contributes to a solution to the Palestinian issue.

The president called on the Arabs to unite. He said: If the Arabs do not unite and agree with each other, progress toward the settlement of the Palestinian issue will be extremely difficult to achieve.

The president declared he extends a hand to his Arab brothers. He said: Egypt, the biggest country in the region, stretches a hand to its sisterly Arab countries. Egypt has no qualms in this regard.

The president described Egypt's relations with Algeria as very good and said he had met with the Algerian president in Addis Ababa last year.

On Syria's stand toward Egypt, President Mubarak said: I cannot face the Syrian president and assail him, even though he assailed Egypt, because he is an Arab brother and friend, and despite my sorrow over the Syrian media's prejudice against Egypt.

Commenting on Libyan policy, the president said: If the Libyan president extends his hand to me, I will do the same, provided his hand is not full of explosives.

The president affirmed that Egypt will never allow a nuclear vessel to pass through the Suez Canal, unless Egypt has fully outlined its terms and conditions to the nations who own those ships and those countries have agreed to the conditions.

The president described the current climate of investment in Egypt as very healthy. He said: We have eliminated a lot of administrative obstacles facing investors.

President Husni Mubarak's statements came in an interview with 'Abdallah al-Nuwaysi, chief editor of the newspaper AL-ITTIHAD, published in the UAE. [passage omitted]

Following is the text of the interview:

[*Al-Ittihad*] Your Excellency, as you are going, God willing, to the Islamic summit in Kuwait, in the heart of the Gulf region and amid renewed, very fierce battles, and in light of your previous statement that the Islamic summit of Kuwait is the last opportunity for collective and decisive Arab action to confront the challenges facing us as Arabs, we ask you: What is your assessment of the extent and importance of what is required from this summit, both at the Arab and Islamic levels? What are the efforts you have, in fact, started and the efforts you intend to make during this summit not to lose this opportunity?

[Mubarak] Any summit conference in the world, among any group of countries, starts with some problems among these countries and ends with a solution for half of them. So why not among us Arab countries, who have our own nature and traditions? I might disagree with you about something, and this difference will grow if there is no opportunity to meet with you. But is it not part of our Arab traditions to extend our hands in greeting when we meet? Impossible. Impossible. This is our nature. Regardless of disputes between and among us, we cannot meet without each of us shaking the hand of the other. Hence, I say summit conferences are of very great value, even in thawing ice between countries that have differences. It will be natural to find some parties which, because of their Arab disposition and Arab and Islamic nature, will intervene to reconcile views and thaw much of the ice among the Arab countries. This is why I say summits are extremely important. My criticism is that Arab summit conferences are never held, even though the Arab region has so many problems that require an Arab summit at least twice a year. Had such summits been held, many problems would have been solved and solidarity established, even if there were differences that had to be accepted. It is important that there be agreement among us from which we do not deviate about the Arab nation's interests.

I am not talking about an Arab summit with the aim of returning Egypt to the Arab League fold. I am talking in general terms. I would like to point out our relations with Arab countries have never been severed, despite the absence of ambassadors. Ambassadors have never been the connecting link among Arab countries. We are in direct contact with Arab kings and presidents. For example, when I was vice president I would go to Saudi Arabia to meet the king in Riyadh, and the ambassador would not know about it until much later. There are many examples. When Egyptian-Arab relations reached their nadir, air traffic between us and the Gulf countries — UAE, Saudi Arabia, Qatar, Bahrain, Sultanate of Oman, and Kuwait — was extensive. There were 65 weekly flights, around 270 flights a month. Diplomatic relations were frozen at the ambassadorial level, but we have never stopped communications. The Arab peoples have never suspended their contacts. This underlines the fact that summit meetings are extremely important for our people. Rulers act by the will of their people. We must work for the sake of our people. Hence, I say the Kuwait summit meetings are extremely vital and will contribute to removing misunderstanding between and among our countries. I stress to you, when I visit Kuwait all the peoples in all the Gulf countries will be happy. This is the natural relationship that must prevail among Arabs. We have citizens from all Arab countries in Egypt, and there are many

Egyptians in your country contributing to the development plan. It is natural meetings of Arab leaders are beneficial and leave a strong impression on citizens.

In these circumstances, if a problem arose in any of the Gulf countries and that country sought any kind of assistance, would I abandon it? Both ruler and people are our brothers and friends. I could never abandon them. How could I leave my brother to face tribulation? I could not. I am certain our brothers in the Gulf and Arab countries would not abandon us if Egypt were subjected to tribulation. The Gulf countries, in particular, would not abandon Egypt. This is natural.

[*Al-Ittihad*] Your Excellency, you have mentioned more than once that Egypt's relations with the Arab states are generally good, Egypt is receiving greater understanding and support, and means of communication and understanding with Saudi Arabia and the Gulf states are being enhanced. Intensive contacts between the Gulf states and Egypt were reflected recently in a positive approach by the Gulf and Arab states toward Egypt. What are the parameters of this approach, and what is your current assessment of Egypt's relations with the Gulf states in light of the recent contacts?

[Mubarak] All that remains to complete relations between us and the Gulf states is an ambassador. I do not give great weight to this, and I do not wish to place the Arab states in an embarrassing situation. The question of an ambassador does not trouble me at all. Our relations have never depended on ambassadors. I do not want to embarrass any state in this regard. It is up to each state to return its ambassador when it considers it appropriate. Jordan has returned its ambassador. King Hassan II is indeed a brother and a friend I respect very much. He told me while I was in New York he would upgrade diplomatic representation and restore relations. Although he has not yet restored relations, I am not bothered at all. I told him then: Do not place yourself in an awkward situation. When you find the time suitable, do so. Does this mean I was angry with him? Not at all. We still maintain contacts. They blame us for seeking a solution with Israel. In whose interest is the solution with Israel? It is for the good of all Arabs. If you look around you can see the Israeli contacts with the Arab world. I just do not want to embarrass anyone.

We want to deal with reality; not deceive ourselves and our people. We must know what is right and what is wrong. Did Egypt abandon the cause after we regained our land, for which these wars were fought? Absolutely not. Is there a country which does more for the Palestinian cause — with due respect for all of them, each country does what it can — than we are doing? I wish all [Arab] countries would do more than we, so long as the efforts are in the right direction. I am ready to acclaim anyone who can contribute effectively to the Palestinian cause. I am 100 percent in favor of any effort leading to a solution of the Palestinian issue and restoring stability and security to the Arab region, whether that effort is made by Egypt, Saudi Arabia, UAE, Qatar, or Bahrain. I bow in respect and appreciation to any person who makes an effort to resolve the issue or contributes more to a solution than Egypt does. [answer ends]

The president then referred to the Camp David agreement, saying: Camp David is comprised of two papers which people apparently do not understand. One paper deals with Egyptian-Israeli relations. This paper has been implemented, because we have concluded an agreement and regained our land. It includes an exchange of ambassadors. Our ambassadors are present in all countries alongside Israel's ambassadors. They attend all receptions. All Arab and non-Arab ambassadors attend such functions. Imagine Arab ambassadors not attending a reception held in Italy on a national occasion, for example, because the Israeli ambassador would be present. They do attend, in England, France, and the United States. In addition, there are constant contacts among them everywhere. We are required to be practical and logical in terms of ourselves, our history, and our people.

Camp David's second paper or framework pertains to settling all aspects of the Palestinian issue. People have made a big issue of Camp David. This second paper has reached an impasse because Israel imparted an interpretation to it contravening the Camp David spirit. Hence, the effort was suspended. Other initiatives to resolve the issue appeared: the Fes initiative, the Reagan plan, the Jordanian-Palestinian agreement. Numerous efforts have been made. We support these new developments as long as they will lead to resolution of the issue. We are not clinging to one mythical answer. Absolutely not. We are still making a great effort in this regard. This is Camp David. We [the Arabs], however, reject everything. We have been rejecting since 1948, until everything was lost. We will continue to reject until Sinai is lost, then Jordan, then a second part of Egypt. This would then spread to all the other Arab countries. We must be truthful with our people.

[*Al-Ittihad*]: But Israel is taking advantage of the stalemate and continuing to build settlements?

[Mubarak]: This is our fault. We gave them the chance because we are fighting among ourselves. When we were negotiating with Israel at Camp David, it was Egypt who was the target of all the abuse [from the Arabs], not Israel. This weakened our position in the negotiations when we were discussing the second part, dealing with the Palestinian problem. The campaign against Egypt gave rise to questions. People wondered why the Arabs did not want to negotiate. Why the verbal attacks? Why do we not act like civilized countries, decide on which points we disagree, and then see what everyone can do about a certain issue?

Look at any group of countries, the EC or any non-Arab group. There are conflicts of interest among the Europeans, but do they act as we do? No. They meet every 3 months, and when a problem arises between two countries the heads of state meet and solve it. Only in the Arab world does one country's dispute with another lead to the worst abuse, the worst insults. It is absolutely degrading. This does not happen in the EC. The EC countries are always meeting. How many years has it been since an Arab summit could be held? In whose interest are the increased tensions, disputes, quarrels, and aggravation in the Arab world? Who is the loser? Naturally, the Arab nations.

The Europeans are not the only ones to meet this way — all international forums do. The Africans are punctual. They call for an OAU meeting in June, and everyone shows up, right on time. When will our brothers in the Arab countries do this? I pray to God they will.

There will be an ICO summit soon in Kuwait, and the sad fact is they [the nations involved] are busy killing and threatening each other. The Africans are laughing at us. The whole world is laughing at us: An Islamic summit, and they are still killing each other! Islam has nothing to do with these conflicts, the violence and the fighting. Why do we have to damage the image of such a generous and tender faith? The word terrorism has become linked with Islam throughout the world, thanks to our uncivilized acts.

[*Al-Ittihad*]: Can we say that the long-deadlocked Egyptian-Arab relations are now completely free of complications? Or does Your Excellency believe there are still some issues precluding the ultimate step of restoring Egyptian-Arab relations to their normal state?

[Mubarak]: We have no problems. I am extending my hand to all our Arab brothers, and Egypt, the largest state in the region, is extending its hand to all its Arab sisters. We have no qualms whatever in this regard. As for the final step of restoring ties, this is up to the Arab countries. I do not like to pressure or embarrass anyone. This is definitely their affair.

[*Al-Ittihad*]: Mr President, you have recently said Egyptian-Algerian contacts are continuing and strong. Are there any new developments concerning these contacts, and how much has been achieved so far, knowing you had been expected to visit Algeria a year ago?

[Mubarak]: We have very good ties with Algeria, and our contacts are ongoing. I met Algerian President Chadli Bendjedid last year in Addis Ababa. As for the so-called expected visit, only the media predicted it. If I am invited to visit any Arab country, I will go. I have no qualms in this respect.

[*Al-Ittihad*] Your Excellency, you have recently said there is no justification for the present estrangement between Egypt and Syria, and differences of view and method are not a sufficient reason for this estrangement and should not be a cause of it. Is there anything new in Egyptian-Syrian relations? Have there been any secret contacts recently between Cairo and Damascus?

[Mubarak] We were, in fact, in touch with Syria about 2 years ago. Although I respect and esteem Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad — he is a friend whom I know very well, and I always mediated between him and President al-Sadat, God have mercy on his soul, when disputes arose between them — I found out from these contacts that the brothers in Syria want Egypt to follow a certain course. No. I cannot allow Syria to impose this course on us; neither do I want to make Syria follow my particular path. I do not like anyone, big or small, to dominate me. Neither do I want to dominate anyone else, big or small. These contacts came to an end. However, Egyptian film and theater delegations have recently gone to Damascus. They first requested my permission, and I told them: Go to Syria, it is an Arab country.

Now that the Kuwait summit conference is drawing nearer, the Syrian radio and press have begun to abuse Egypt. This is strange. What has happened? Syria speaks of the legitimacy of Egypt's participation in the summit. What legitimacy is this? Are summit resolutions respected or not? Does it mean Syria wants all Islamic, Arab, and even nonaligned summits to go along with its views? Why are you doing all this, Syria? I ask President al-Asad reprovingly: Why all this? We also have many issues we could raise. It is said they have included the illegitimacy of Egypt's attendance at this summit on the agenda. I could also include many matters on the summit agenda, and we have much confirmed information in this regard. But in the end, I cannot see President al-Asad in front of me and stand up to criticize him. In the end, he is an Arab brother and friend, despite everything and despite my sorrow at the Syrian media's crude attack on Egypt. You were good; what has happened? May God give us guidance.

[*Al-Ittihad*] Your Excellency, is it possible you will take the opportunity at the Kuwait Islamic summit to join hands with the Syrian and Libyan leaders? Do you see this summit as a suitable occasion to bring Arab hearts together in reconciliation and unite ranks? This meeting is taking place at a most dangerous stage, in which the Arab entity and very existence are threatened.

[Mubarak] If the Syrian president wants to meet me, he is welcome to do so. I see no disgrace in extending my hand to him. He will extend his hand to me, as well, if we meet. I am confident of this because we were friends before the differences arose between us.

Regarding the Libyan president [as received], I cannot understand him. Only 2 days ago, he said the Iraqis and Iranians are mad. He described the war between them as madness. I beseech God to guide him. It seems the guidance has begun — unless he says something else in 2 or 3 days' time. I tell you if he extends his hand to me I will reciprocate, provided his hand is not full of explosives.

[*Al-Ittihad*] Your Excellency, Arab circles expect a unique contribution from you at the Kuwait summit, particularly regarding the Gulf war, Arab detente, the Middle East peace conference, and the Palestinian problem. Can you shed any light on Egypt's role at the summit on these issues?

[Mubarak] Egypt's role in these matters is not limited to the summit conference alone. Egypt's exertions in this regard have never ceased. But if we have the opportunity to meet with the brothers during this conference, we will step up our efforts. Egypt cannot get us to the shore of safety singlehandedly. It is the rallying of Arab efforts that will put us on the correct path toward the resolution of our problems. We are against the war between Iraq and Iran. I tell our brothers in Iran despite their crude utterances, they are a Muslim people and Iraq is a Muslim nation. Spurn war and sit down at the negotiating table to solve your problems. These matters cannot be dealt with by carrier pigeons or through telephone calls or mediators. Let us look at how the United States, with all its military might, dealt with the war in Vietnam. The Americans, despite the great disparity in the strength of the two countries, went to the negotiating table and found a solution.

[*Al-Ittihad*] Your Excellency, Mr President: Last November you appealed to Iraq and Iran to halt all acts of war during the Islamic summit in Kuwait. What kind of contacts has Egypt made in this regard, and how have the two sides responded to the appeal? How

do you assess the Iranian leaders' statements demanding the summit be held somewhere other than Kuwait or postponed?

[Mubarak] Our brothers in Iran have rejected this appeal. However, I tell them once again: You are an Islamic country and attend Islamic conferences. If you could halt your operations during the convention of an Islamic summit conference attended by the leaders of all the Islamic countries, it would be a good omen which might reconcile views to a certain extent, as fighting among our countries is a horrible thing.

[*Al-Ittihad*] Your Excellency, Mr President: What do you think about revelations indicating the U.S. Administration supplied Iraq and Iran with inaccurate information over the past few years to attain the Reagan administration's goals in the region? Also, what is your comment on the statement by Taha Yasin Ramadan, member of the Iraqi Revolution Command Council, indicating the supply of misleading information by the United States to Iraq on Iran's military intentions has led to the death of thousands of Iraqi soldiers?

[Mubarak] This whole issue has become very regrettable and a cause of sorrow and grief. I have read all the reports published by the international press on the U.S role in this matter. I can now state the United States has completely lost its credibility in the Arab region, and perhaps in the whole world. I have spoken to European figures who have said that the United States has lost its credibility even in Europe. The restoration of this credibility requires immense efforts on the part of the United States. Otherwise, the consequences will be very bad.

[*Al-Ittihad*] Your Excellency, what is your impression of the Reagan administration's contention that the arms deal with Iran did not have and will not have any impact on the balance of power and on the Gulf war, and that the supply of arms to Iran was aimed at supporting moderate Iranian elements?

[Mubarak] These justifications are unacceptable and illogical. What do they mean by the moderate elements? The moderate and nonmoderate elements in Iran have abused and violently assailed the United States since they have been exposed. I repeat —this deal was the worst possible act. Those who like the United States, as well as those who do not, have all agreed to condemn the United States for this deal.

[*Al-Ittihad*] Your Excellency, Mr President: Was Egypt surprised by the U.S. [arms] supply to Iran and by Israel's major role in the deal? Or did you have previous knowledge through information you obtained? What is the true nature of the messages which 'Adnan al-Khashuqji has alleged to have sent Egypt and Jordan on this issue, and what did he seek in these messages?

[Mubarak] We were completely surprised by this deal. Moreover, we never imagined this would happen. Had we been informed in advance of this deal, I would have disclosed such information and its source. We heard that Israel was supplying Iran with some arms. When we asked Israel about this, they told us: We used to supply Iran with arms, but we have stopped doing so. Iran has been abusing Israel at a time when Israel sends technicians there to repair Iranian aircraft and supplies Iran with spare parts.

As for 'Adnan al-Khashuqji, he is a "dishonest" man and has sent us no messages. He must clarify with whom he sent us the messages.

[*Al-Ittihad*] Al-Khashuqji said in a press interview a few days ago he is a friend of Peres and the hero of the deal.

[Mubarak] All right, let us call him the hero of heroes.

[*Al-Ittihad*] Mr President, throughout President Reagan's 6-year tenure the United States has tried to convince the Arabs it is their ally and friend. Despite these attempts, the U.S. Administration has not achieved anything regarding a solution for Arab problems. In fact, exactly the opposite has happened. Israel has been able to dominate Arab land, Arab sanctity, and Arab destiny. War has flared up in the Gulf despite the slogans of major powers promising to work for an end to that conflict. During the remaining 2 years of President Reagan's term, do you expect the United States to take any action in Arab and international affairs?

[Mubarak] The U.S. Administration is now preoccupied with the "Irangate" issue. I do not believe it has time for Arab problems. I do not imagine or foresee anything to indicate the United States will act or make any effort toward resolving our Arab issues.

[*Al-Ittihad*] Mr President, you are scheduled to visit the United States next month. What message will you bring to the U.S. Administration? Will there be any coordination with Arab states before your talks in Washington?

[Mubarak] We have not yet agreed on a date for my visit to the United States. When America finishes with its present "Irangate" theatrics and its policy becomes clear, we will think about this visit.

[*Al-Ittihad*] Mr President, you expected 1985 and 1986 to be years of peace in light of the Jordanian-Palestinian agreement. However, Israel's plot to undermine this agreement created a stumbling block in efforts being made to resolve the problem, and the agreement itself was eventually frozen. What became of your recent attempts to reconcile King Husayn and the PLO leadership as a basis for moving toward peace? Have you reached an alternative formula to restore coordination between them that would replace the Amman agreement, the abolition of which several Palestinian parties have demanded as a condition for achieving Palestinian national unity?

[Mubarak] If the Arabs do not unite and reach agreement among themselves, it will be extremely difficult to make progress toward resolving the Palestinian issue. Egypt is continuing its efforts to coordinate with the Jordanian monarch. It is also in communication with Yasir 'Arafat and the PLO. However, problems still exist regarding reconciliation between them. Continued Arab division will not help resolve this issue.

As for the Jordanian-Palestinian agreement, I do not see that it has been frozen. The two sides have only stopped their discussions. It is definitely not in the interest of the issue to have this agreement frozen or to abolish it. We hope Jordan and the PLO will reach agreement in the future.

[*Al-Ittihad*] Mr President, do you think it is possible a new Arab initiative will appear to get things moving? If so, how and from which parties will it originate? Is it time for a comprehensive Arab initiative? Is it time for the Arabs to stand together as they did in the 1973 war when they were united to face the challenge in the Gulf and Palestine?

[Mubarak] No new Arab initiative will appear of any value constituting an impetus for action as long as the Arabs do not resolve their differences, sit around an Arab table, and agree on one stand. Unless the Arabs sit down together and unite to confront the challenge, there will be no Arab forces. On the contrary, with our present division we will all be gradually devoured, piece by piece.

[*Al-Ittihad*] Mr President, do you believe Egyptian-Sudanese relations have again become warm following the recent exchange of visits between officials from your two countries? What is your opinion on the recent proposal to prepare a fraternity charter to replace the integration program for your two countries? Is there anything new in Egypt's role to resolve the southern problem?

[Mubarak] There are no problems between Egypt and Sudan. Our bilateral relations are very normal. Neither the Egyptian Government nor the current Sudanese Government can do anything to alter the special relationship that exists between the two countries. There are 3 or 4 million Sudanese nationals living in Egypt. There are long-standing relations between our two countries. Contacts between us are continuing and no one can stop them. As for what is being said about a new formula for fraternity instead of integration, Egypt welcomes any Sudanese proposal in this respect. This is true despite the fact the integration agreement was reached on the basis of a proposal by the legitimate Sudanese Government at the time. We approved it. The present Sudanese Government has called for a new formula to replace the integration program. We said to the Sudanese: We will see this formula, discuss it, and submit it to our constitutional and popular institutions. If it is accepted, then we will welcome it.

[*Al-Ittihad*] Mr President, Israel has become a nuclear power threatening the region. What are your comments on the information which *The Sunday Times* recently published onthe magnitude of this Israeli nuclear armament and its possession of some 100 or 200 nuclear warheads? What about the danger that this might lead a potential nuclear conflict to shift to the Middle East and Africa?

[Mubarak] We are all aware Israel has had the potential to make a nuclear bomb since the 1950's. I regard the publication of such information at this time as a form of nuclear terrorism. There are nuclear reactors throughout the world. Should a nuclear conflict break out, it would destroy everyone. However, I say again as long as the Arabs remain divided, any attempt to meet this challenge is useless.

[*Al-Ittihad*] Mr President, the United States and the Soviet Union have requested that nuclear-powered ships be allowed to pass through the Suez Canal and other international waterways. This could pose a threat to the security of the states involved and to the future of their people in light of recent accidents. What is your stand on this matter?

[Mubarak] It is true the great powers have submitted such a request to us. However, we are undertaking special studies on the subject. We will stipulate the conditions and the arrangements to be made to ensure the safety of the canal and our citizens. Among these conditions is the payment of compensation to citizens,in the event of injury or losses, and to the state in the event the canal is closed for any reason and for any length of time.

We will announce these conditions as soon as we finish drafting them. Those who approve and abide by these conditions will be allowed to use the canal; those who do not will not be given permission to pass through the canal. If we have allowed passage to a nuclear-powered vessel in the past, it was for emergency reasons. Now, however, we will not allow any nuclear-powered ship to pass through the canal until we have concluded all the conditions and obligations for those states which own nuclear-powered ships and until these states agree to abide by these conditions.

[*Al-Ittihad*] The question of Egypt's military debts to the United States has been discussed at length. The intent has been to reduce the interest rate in a way consistent with the concept of Egyptian-U.S. friendship. The entire world has observed the U.S. Administration has not responded to the logical Egyptian demands. What steps will you take in a quest for alternative solutions to this problem? Do you believe the U.S. Administration has reneged on its promises in this regard?

[Mubarak] The root of the problem of Egypt's military debts to the United States can be found in the high rate of interest involved; a rate of 14 percent. This means I must pay between $600 and $800 million annually in interest alone. This is too much for the Egyptian economy to bear. Since assuming office, I have asked the United States to reduce this interest rate. So far there has been no such reduction and they remain unchanged. The only solution the U.S. Administration has proposed for this problem is to defer payment on half the interest rate until the original debt has been settled. I can see beyond the end of my nose. I do not want the United States to reduce the interest rate for 2 or 3 years while I am still in office, and then say I could care less what happens after that. The future of Egypt and its people is at stake. Sound bases must be prepared in this regard.

At this point I can say what I have expected from the United States has not happened. I have rejected all the solutions proposed and submitted to us by the U.S. Administration. Our specialists are still looking for other possible solutions to this problem.

[*Al-Ittihad*] Is the Soviet stand better than that of the United States?

[Mubarak] May God help us to reach a solution with them. Let us await the outcome of our talks in this regard.

[*Al-Ittihad*] Mr President, the savings accrued by Egyptians working abroad is an important source of foreign currency. However, recent statistics indicate these currency transfers to Egypt dropped last year. What measures do you intend to take to attract these savings, to protect them, and to channel them legally?

[Mubarak] We are devoting a great deal of attention to this subject. The goverment is currently studying several measures to attract the savings of Egyptians who work abroad. One such measure involves increasing the interest rate for these savings. Other incentives are also envisaged.

[*Al-Ittihad*] Mr President, Egypt's enemies are spreading the story Egypt is not a safe place for either Arab or foreign investment. They say there is a lot of red tape which would frustrate any potential investor. How do you respond to this?

[Mubarak] These are mere rumors intended to put Egypt in a difficult position and make it an easy prey for anyone. I ask the Arab papers not to repeat such stories, for there are non-Arab elements behind them. The climate for investment in Egypt is now very healthy. We have removed a great deal of the red tape that used to confront investors. We are still trying to remove any remaining obstacles.

[*Al-Ittihad*] Mr President, since assuming office you have periodically met with opposition leaders to exchange views on Egyptian issues. However, it has been observed such meetings have not taken place for a long time. Does this mean you dislike some of the stands adopted by these leaders?

[Mubarak] It is not necessary for me to meet with opposition leaders frequently. Even if I have not met with these particular people, I meet with many men from various parties. They are all Egyptians. The NDP is Egyptian, the Al-Wafd is Egyptian, the NPUG is Egyptian, the Labor Party is Egyptian, the Liberals Party is Egyptian, and the Al-Ummah Party is Egyptian. I affirm the freedom which is now allowed is unprecedented in the history of Egypt. Despite what is said and written in party newspapers, I have not seized any opposition publication, something which used to happen during the monarchy and prior to the revolution. However, we do not want a democracy of chaos. Everything has a limit, and I know my way and limits very well.

Comments on Gulf War

NC201747 Cairo MENA in English 1725 GMT
20 Jan 87

[Text] Cairo, Jan 20 (MENA) — President Husni Mubarak todaystrongly denounced the continuation of the Iraq-Iran war and said: "We will exert great effort at the Islamic summit conference to solve this acute problem."

Speaking at the end of his visit today to Cairo International Book Fair, President Mubarak said: "We can stand by the side of Moslems in both countries," pointing to European countries which had met lately and decided to collect surplus agricultural crops and foods for the poor countries which were stricken by cold weather.

President Mubarak reiterated Egypt will cooperate with Islamic countries at the Islamic conference to put an end to the Gulf war.

Answering a question on whether the Islamic conference will be a proper chance to restore Egypt's relations with the Arab countries, President Mubarak said the ties were very good between Egypt and the Arabs and there were constant contacts except with "our brothers in Syria and Libya and the likes."

The president stressed that he does not want anything from Syria "because they will not — repeat not — give us anything."

Foreign Minister Leaves for ICO Sessions

NC201425 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1300 GMT
20 Jan 87

[Excerpt] Cairo, 20 Jan (MENA) — Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, left Cairo for Kuwait this afternoon, heading the Egyptian delegation. He will attend the Islamic ministerial council's sessions to begin on Friday in preparation for the Islamic summit on Monday [26 January].

In a statement made prior to his departure, Dr 'Abd al-Majid asserted President Mubarak's participation in the Islamic summit in Kuwait reflects Egypt's total willingness to shoulder its responsibility and duties toward the fraternal Islamic countries and its eagerness to contribute to the success of the summit, which has particular importance at a time when the Islamic world is facing several challenges that affect its existence and future.

Dr 'Abd al-Majid also declared Egypt's delegation is going to the summit with good intentions and a desire to support the cause of Arab interests. He expressed Egypt's hope the Islamic leaders will join efforts to resolve major issues and will put aside differences and conflicts that merely waste the recources of the Islamic people.[passage omitted]

Ghali Receives Cypriot, Chinese Officials

NC201431 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1315 GMT
20 Jan 87

[Excerpt] Cairo, 20 Jan (MENA) — Dr Butrus Ghali, minister of state for foreign affairs, met today with Cypriot Interior Minister Konstandinos Mikhailidhis, currently visiting Cairo.

They discussed the situation in the Middle East and ways to strengthen bilateral cooperation in various fields.

Dr Ghali also met today with Zhu Liang, head of the Chinese Communist Party Central Committee's International Liaison Department, and with the delegation accompanying him on his visit to Egypt.

During the meeting, the minister of state for foreign affairs said Egypt wishes to undertake consultations with the PRC, in the latter's capacity as a permanent member of the UN Security Council, on the issue of an international conference for peace in the Middle East.

The Chinese minister asserted the importance of continued bilateral cooperation and dialogue. [passage omitted]

Saudi Petroleum Minister Ends 4-Day Visit

NC171335 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1300 GMT 17 Jan 87

[Text] Cairo, 17 Jan (MENA) — Saudi Petroleum Minister Hisham Nazir left Cairo for London today, en route to the Soviet Union, after a 4-day visit to Egypt that included a meeting with President Muhammad Husni Mubarak.

The Saudi petroleum minister also met with Prime Minister Dr 'Atif Sidqi and held talks with Egyptian Minister of Petroleum 'Abd al-Hadi Qandil.

The Saudi minister's visit to Egypt was part of a tour that will also take him to the Soviet Union and Norway to explain OPEC's views on the need to stabilize oil prices on world markets.

The Saudi minister was seen off at the airport by Dr Kamal al-Janzuri, deputy prime minister and minister of planning and international cooperation, and 'Abd al-Hadi Qandil.

Sidqi Interviewed on Debit Payments, Prices

JN162121 Cairo AL-AKHBAR in Arabic 13 Jan 87 pp 1, 3, 4

["Text" "dialogue" with Egyptian Prime Minister 'Atif Sidqi by Musa Sabri — date not given]

[Excerpts] My appointment with Prime Minister 'Atif Sidqi preceded his appointment with a U.S. delegation visiting Egypt to explain the U.S. offer to ease debit payments for U.S. arms. The prime minister was not happy with the offer. It merely defers the payment of the debts and their interest and subjects the debts to a compound interest that terribly increases them.

The prime minister asked: Do you have any idea about the U.S. offer?

I replied: Yes, it is no more than a deferment that will be an unbearable burden for us later.

He said: We are not looking for a temporary gain for the present government. There is no question we will lay the great burden on a future generation.

I said: My understanding of the U.S. offer is it seeks to place us under strong financial pressure from which we can find no escape. If the U.S. Administration really wants to help us it must ask the U.S. Congress to pass legislation reducing interest on the debt and rescheduling it, or aggree to be our guarantor so we can borrow from banks to pay the debt on a long-term basis.

He said: In any case, all aspects of the issue will become clear when we meet with the U.S. delegation today.

I retorted: My understanding of this policy toward us is it is based on the philosphy of "do not let them die, but do not let them live."

The discussion turned to domestic issues. I asked Prime Minister Sidqi: We expected the prime minister to deliver a brief statement to the People's Assembly. However, the statement was lengthy and lasted 3 hours, although you summarized part of it in an hour. Thus, the basic issues were lost among secondary issues. We had expected the statement to be short (1 hour at the most) and to concentrate on the big problems.

He answered: The statement did not touch on details. I left the issues related to the various sectors to my colleagues —the ministers who will discuss them, each according to his area of competence — at the meetings of the People's Assembly committees. My aim was to put forward a complete strategy to tackle all the problems facing us. I agree with you; we are living through difficult years. [passage omitted]

I said: The statement touched on every issue, but I would have preferred it to concentrate more on the problems experienced by every household.

He asked: For instance?

I said: The problem of increasing prices. In his statement to the People's Assembly and the Consultative Council last November, President Husni Mubarak discussed the issue and raised several others, including the large price increase of agricultural products sold to consumers over the prices the farmer sells to the wholesale trader.

He replied: That is an important issue and we are now studying ways to tackle it. Two days ago I met with ministers to discuss the only way to handle the increase in prices from the field to the market.

I asked: What is that?

He said: It is a method applied in states with a free economy; namely, the establishment of genuine cooperatives that receive agricultural products and take them to the markets.

I said: The issue has been discussed since the time of 'Abd al-Nasir.

He replied: The problem is a difficult one. [passage omitted]

I said: These are all chronic problems. They exacerbate with time. What then? You declared an open exports policy with no restrictions so we can increase our revenues, and yet we are still stumbling.

He retorted: The main problem we must take into account — and we are tackling all these problems — is the policy of balance. For instance, regarding the export of agricultural products, the following question arises: Which is better — to have no restrictions or limits on exports to earn more hard currency, or to limit exports so they will not affect local consumption and thereby provide people with their needs first? That is a difficult situation in difficult circumstances. Therefore, there must be sufficient agricultural products in the markets so the people are not inconvenienced. At the same time, we must increase our earnings of hard currency. [passage omitted]

I said: Graduates of engineering schools are now suffering a great deal — some of them have been out of work for 3 years.

He said: That is true. The government will carry out its commitments, even if that may take some time. [passage omitted]

I said: To return to price increases: the price of meat, for instance, is high. You advise the people to be conscientious in their consumption, yet when they turn to buying poultry they find the prices high. The owners of some chicken farms have closed, having suffered a loss.

He replied: We are now progressing on a complete solution to the problem of chicken production. The lack of fodder was the reason. The ban on the import of fodder has now been lifted. At the same time, we have restricted the import of slaughtered chicken to protect domestic production. The government is now importing plants to produce fodder.

I asked: Can you tell me exactly when the poultry crisis will end?

He answered: I can say within 6 months or a year at the most.

I said: There is also the fish issue. Production does not meet domestic consumption, and prices are very high. The president's statement specified domestic consumption needs will be met within 1 and 1/2 years.

He said: The government is committed to this pledge, and is committed to every pledge made in President Mubarak's statement to the People's Assembly and Consultative Council. It is a shame to import fish when we have the Nile, the Red Sea, the Mediterranean, and the lakes. We once had a fishing fleet on the high seas but it was liquidated. Why not set up a fishing fleet in our territorial waters or close to them using small- and medium-sized boats? The basis for fishing is the sea. We also have fishing farms; they are successful and are being expanded. We are also encouraging the organization of fishing cooperatives, and are developing fishing capabilities through companies. We are organizing marketing. It is inconceivable the price of prawns should reach 20 pounds per kilogram. That is unacceptable. [passage omitted]

I said: There is a major problem; namely, the body controlling exports to ensure their quality is good. That is strange, for if the exporter is from the private sector, he is certain to be anxious to safeguard his money and market. Why subject his products to the decisions of an official committee?

He said: There are issues affecting the country's reputation. We have a responsibility to the national economy. We have had numerous problems with foreign importers as a result of the bad quality of what was exported. That happened with the export of onions and potatoes. The onions were not of good quality and the importers refused to receive them. It was alleged the onions were infected with a disease. [passage omitted]

I asked the prime minister: Egyptian investors are in a negative mood. Some of them have millions of pounds abroad while others have millions of pounds under the mattress. What is the government's plan to attract such funds for investment?

He replied: The first thing is to encourage a climate of confidence and assurance in society. I always declare our hearts and minds are open to any kind of investment that achieves a gain for both the investor and Egypt. [passage omitted]

I asked: Will you permit me to return to the question of price increase?

He said: Please do.

I said: Why doesn't the government concentrate on a popular commodity such as beans. Every citizen in Egypt eats beans. We produce enough beans to meet domestic consumption and have a surplus; we export beans. Yet, the price of beans has become exorbitant. Beans constitute a complete meal for the majority of the people. Can't efforts be concentrated to reduce the price of beans? Then the government will achieve a success that will be hailed in every household.

The prime minister said: I agree with you. What you said appears to be simple and convincing, and the government is aware of it. What applies to beans also applies to vegetables and fruit. Perhaps the phenomenon is clearer in the large cities than in the small towns and villages. As I have said, the solution is to set up cooperative societies for transportation and marketing. If that is achieved with good administration, the results will be felt by every household. Such a solution will have long-term effects. I hope it will be implemented quickly.

I summarized the results I reached in my discussion with the prime minister so they would be tangible to the reader. I said to the prime minister: Do I understand from this lengthy discussion you are committed before the people to reduce the soaring prices?

He replied: Yes, God willing.

I said: You are committed to completely ending the crisis in the production of chicken and in ensuring the supply of fish for domestic consumption within a period of 6-18 months?

He answered: Yes.

I said: You are committed to completely eliminating losses suffered by public sector companies and ending the hoarding of goods within 2 years?

He replied: Yes.

I said: You are committed to the complete elimination of obstacles for exports within 45 days?

He answered: Yes.

I said: You are committed to the reclamation of 100,000-150,000 feddans of agricultural land annually?

He replied: Yes.

I said: You are committed to attracting Egyptian investors from abroad within a year?

He replied: Yes.

I said: You are committed to organzing the free education system?

He responded: Yes.

The dialogue ended. I hope the people will be assured by the prime minister's answers, particularly on price increases.

Further Reports, Communiques on Recent Fighting

Iranian Advance 'Failed'

JN201438 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1330 GMT 20 Jan 87

[Text] Baghdad, 20 Jan (INA) — Iraqi military sources have affirmed that all Iranian attempts to advance on the III Army Corps front east of Al-Basrah have failed. The Iranian forces remained in a narrow strip between the east bank of the Shatt al-'Arab and south of the Al-Asmak Lake, receiving violent blows from the Iraqi heavy, medium, and light weapons. The military sources added that Sunday night turned into daylight because of the devastating barrages which wiped out everything on the Iranian side, and that the Iranian reinforcements in arms and personnel did not change the situation in favor of the Iranian forces.

The Iraqi sources said: We will ignore the Iranian media uproar in favor of military action on the ground which is well known and whose bitterness is tasted by the Iranian officers who are in positions that are somewhat far from the battlefield.

Correspondents in areas near the battlefield said that the Iraqi units, which did not move an inch, continued to destroy the waves pushed by Iran to the battlefield with combat efficiency and activity. The correspondents noted that the Iraqi fighter planes and helicopters deprived the Iranian forces, stationed deep inside Iran, of the opportunity to move from one place to another. This was confirmed by the columns of black smoke billowing from afar.

The Iranians, who miraculously escaped death and fell into the Iraqi forces' hands after missing the road while escaping, said that after their commanders pushed them hundreds of meters they found themselves stepping on the massive corpses of Iranians and that some of these corpses were torn up.

The Armed Forces General Command comunique issued last night said that eight Iranian Guards divisions attacked the Iraqi defensive positions successively on the night of 18 January, that the enemy waves were harvested, and that the Iraqis remained steadfast in their positions.

100,000 Iranians Killed

JN201528 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1405 GMT 20 Jan 87

[Text] Baghdad, 20 Jan (INA) — The Iranians have sustained more than 100,000 killed and wounded — 90,000 of them in the III Army Corps sector — in their interception of the Iraqi forces in the III Army Corps sector east of Al-Basrah and in the II Army Corps central sector. Official Iraqi military sources announced this in a statement to INA. The sources said: The decisive attack promised by Iran and for which it prepared for more than 1 year, imagining that it could occupy Basra, was doomed to failure. The sources said that the confirmed information shows that the complete and comprehensive collapse of the Iranian war machine is imminent. They added that despite the great losses the Iranians were only able to gain a foothold which is surrounded by water and whose farthest point from the eastern Iraqi border is no more than 2.5 km along a 4 km-front.

The Iraqi sources added that the Iraqi forces destroyed the bulk of 12 divisions and 4 brigades from the Khomeyni Guards and 3 independent armored units in the sector east of Al-Basrah. The official soruces added that instead of telling lies, the Iranian rulers must tell the Iranians the fate of their sons.

The following are the 12 Iranian divisions destroyed:

1. The 3d Division, Sahib al-Zaman — guards.
2. The 5th Division, Nasir — guards
3. The 7th Division, Walla al-'Asr — guards.
4. The 14th Division, (Al-hasan) — guards
5. The 17th Division, 'Ali ibn Abi Talib — guards.
6. The 19th Division, Al-fajr, — guards.
7. The 25th Division, Karbala' — guards
8. The 27th Division, Muhammad Rasul Allah — guards
9. The 31st Division, 'Ashura' — guards
10. The 41st Division, Tha'ru allah — guards.
11. The 10th Division, Sayyid al-Shuhada' — guards.
12. The 33d Division, Al-mahdi — guards.

The following are the four Iranian brigades destroyed:

1. The 21st Brigade, Al-rida — guards.
2. The Al-ghadir Brigade — guards.
3. The Al-hadi Brigade — guards.
4. The Al-kwathar Brigade — guards

Communique No 2,536

JN202139 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 2114 GMT 20 Jan 87

[Communique No 2,536 issued by the Armed Forces General Command on 20 January 1987]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. Our valiant forces have continued their heroic confrontation of our people's and country's enemies, the Khomeyniites who are the racist, anti-Arab, and covetous agents of Zionism, killing more thousands of them in addition to the thousands lost by the enemy, and affirming Iraq's great victory and the enemies' defeat and collapse in front of our great fighters and capabilities.

The following is a roundup of the activities for last night and today:

1. At 2130 yesterday, the desperate enemy, who is collapsing in front of the heroic steadfastness of the valiant Al-Miqdad Forces, pushed groups of its personnel in an abortive attempt to intercept one of our brave units south of Al-Asmak Lake. Our brave fighters confronted them and harvested the Khomeyniite heads with their bullets and shells. Few of the scoundrels who fled escaped.

At 0245 this morning, the enemy repeated its attempts against the same heroic formation. The scoundrels faced the same fate — torn corpses in the no-man's-land. In the same sector, the enemy pushed groups of its herds toward another formation at 0350 today. The heroic formation foiled the attempt and wiped out all enemy groups.

Our victorious forces in this sector are imposing full control and enjoy superiority in brave men and firepower. Meanwhile, the enemy is being defeated. Our firepower is harvesting the enemy remnants whose corpses are covering the battlefield.

2. Every day, our heroic Air Force achieves new glory and affirms its position in the people's victories over the covertous enemy, entrenching its glorious role in defending Iraq's border and its people's achievements. Our Air Force drops every from of destruction on the racist, hateful, and anti-Arab clique to hasten its collapse, embodying Iraq's victory over it.

Our Air Force carried out 363 combat missions today in which it offered effective support to our valiant Armed Forces, purging the territory of the aggressors' filth. Our Air Force also dropped its violent death on the Khomeyniites' dens deep inside their country to punish them for their aggression against our border and for their shelling of residential areas in Baghdad, Basra, and other cities as follows:

A. At 0530 today, a devastating raid was launched on the city of Qom.

B. At the same time, other planes were pouring destruction on the city of Hamadan.

C. At the same time, other planes were pounding the city of Tabriz.

D. At the same time, scores of our planes were raiding the city of Esfahan.

E. At 1315 today, scores of our planes launched a devastating raid on the city of Hamadan for the second time today.

F. At 1350 today, scores of our planes raided the city of Shahabad [Eslamabad], directing a violent and destructive blow.

G. At 1445 today, other scores of our planes launched a devastating raid on the city of Khorramabad.

After carrying out their missions courageously and efficiently, the brave hawks of the sky returned safely and victoriously with their planes to the homeland in God's care.

3. The brave Army aviation force is playing an important and brave role through its helicopter gunships' brave knights in supporting our ground forces and inflicting heavy losses on the enemy positions, troop concentrations, weapons, and vehicles. The brave helicopter gunship knights are imposing full hegemony over the battlefield. This morning our knights carried out 206 combat sorties after which they returned safely and victoriously to the bases, praise be to God.

The heroic VII Army Corps men are demonstrating great bravey, inflicting heavy losses on the enemy equipment, weapons, and personnel. Last night those brave men destroyed 16 enemy infantry positions, 13 ammunition dumps, 2 tanks, 2 vehicles, 2 machine guns, 2 mortars, and 1 machine gun emplacement. Our men also killed 22 enemy personnel. Blessed be those brave men.

In the heroic II Army Corps sector, an enemy group estimated at two infantry platoons tried to approach our units. The enemy group was confronted and the majority was wuped out while the few others fled. Another enemy group numbering about 15 was spotted, confronted, and its members were killed.

In anotehr area of the same sector, an enemy group tried to approach our units' positions. It was confronted and compelled to flee. Two tubular launchers, one shovel, four ammunition dumps, and five infantry positions were also destroyed by our forces.

At 0330 today, the criminal Iranian enemy fired a missile at Baghdad, a missile supplied to it by those who claim to be Arabs, the Arab nation's traitors, and their colleagues in agentry to Zionism. The incident martyred several civilians, wounded several others, and damaged the some civilians' homes and a number of shops.

Three enemy planes launched three raids at different times on the Al-Damuk area of Wasit Governorate, on the Qarah Tappah area, and the Kuysanjaq area, targeting the residential areas in them. The criminal enemy also shelled the residential areas in Basra with long-range artillery. These incidents led to the martyrdom of 7 civilians and the wounding of 73 others.

The criminal enemy also shelled the city of Al-Sulaymaniyah with long-range artillery today. The enemy shelling martyred 36 citizens, including 5 women, and wounded 98 citizens, including 17 women and 7 children. Mercy and forgiveness to our martyrs and a speedy recovery to our wounded. This crime will not go unpunished.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 20 January 1987

Iranian F-4 Shot Down

JN201946 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1930 GMT 20 Jan 87

[Iraqi military spokesman's statement dated 20 January]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. Further to our Communique No 2,536 issued this evening in which we said that one of the Khomeyniite clique's planes had bombarded residential areas in the Qarah Tappeh area, it has

been affirmed to us that our brave antiaircraft defenses in the heroic II Army Corps sector were able to hit this F-4 plane which was seen falling ablaze on Seh Sir mountain behind enemy lines. Blessed be our antiaircraft men in the heroic II Army Corps sector.

[Dated] 20 January 1987

Aircraft Attack 4 Cities

JN202002 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1935 GMT 20 Jan 87

[Iraqi military spokesman's statement dated 20 January]

[Text] In the name of god, the merciful, the compassionate. To affirm to the scoundrel Khomeyniites in practice what we have told them more than once, that we will continue to represent God's wrath and hammers, striking their heads day and night, and so that these scoundrels will pay heavily for the aggression against Iraq and for shelling the residential areas in our secure cities, our heroic Air Force aircraft carried out the following missions at 1915 today:

1. Our planes pounced on the city of Qom for the second time today.

2. Our planes attacked the city of Esfahan for the second time today.

3. Our aircraft directed a violent blow to the city of Dezful.

4. Our aircraft made their third attack today on their targets in the city of Hamadan.

After robbing the Khomeyniites of their sleep, demolishing their dens, and sending more of them to hell, our brave hawks returned with their planes safely to the homeland. Praise be to God. Peace be upon you, O hawks. Peace be upon all hands defending the homeland of civilizations.

[Dated] 20 January 1987

Downing of 3 Planes Denied

JN202119 Baghdad INA in Arabic 2100 GMT 20 Jan 87

[Text] Bahdad, 20 Jan (INA) — An Iraqi military spokesman has denied Iranian allegations that three Iraqi warplanes were shot down.

In a statement to INA tonight, the spokesman said that all the Iraqi fighters which carried out 363 combat missions returned safely to their bases. Military Communique No 2,536 issued in Baghdad tonight reported that the warplanes carried out 363 combat missions while the helicopters carried out 206 missions and returned safely to their bases.

Al-Miqdad Forces Repel Attacks

JN210659 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0540 GMT 21 Jan 87

[Text] Baghdad, 21 Jan (INA) — The commander of the Al-Miqdad Forces has said that his forces destroyed Iranian attempts to attack Iraqi positions in the III Army Corps sector in southern Iraq on the night of 18-19 January, inflicting massive losses in men and equipment. In a statement to today's issue of *Al-Qadisiyah*, he added that the Iranian regime sent in several military divisions in these attempts without achieving anything due to the Al-Miqdad Forces' complete vigilance. He explained that his formations halted the Iranian offensive and destroyed the enemy's successive human waves.

Bombing of Cities To Continue

JN210700 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0544 GMT 21 Jan 87

[Text] Baghdad, 21 Jan (INA) — *Al-Thawrah* has said that Iraq will continue its strikes against Iranian cities until it compels the Iranian rulers to abandon their hostile policy and expansionist aims.

In a commentary today, *Al-Thawrah* talks about Iraq's warnings and its long abstention from bombing cities and residential areas. It stresses that the only option left the Iranian rulers now is either a comprehensive, just, and honorable peace or comprehensive war. These rulers must choose before it is too late, it adds.

Planes Strike 4 Cities

JN210741 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 0700 GMT 21 Jan 87

[Iraqi military spokesman's statement dated 21 January]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. As long as the Iranian regime is continuing its aggression, because it shelled residential areas in Basra and Al-Sulaymaniyah, and in punishment of this tyrant regime for these hideous crimes, the planes of our gigantic Air Force carried out the following missions:

1. At 0445 today, our planes carried out a violent raid on the city of Qom.

2. At the same time, other planes raided the city of Hamadan.

3. At the same time, our planes carried out a destructive raid on the city of Dezful.

4. At the same time, other planes raided the city of Esfahan.

After fragmenting their targets in these cities and destroying the positions of charlatanism on the heads of their owners, our planes returned with their valiant hawks safely to base. Praise be to God.

[Dated] 21 January 1987.

Saddam Decorates 2 Brigades

JN210721 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0640 GMT 21 Jan 87

[Text] Baghdad, 21 Jan (INA) — President Saddam Husayn has awarded the Al-Rafidayn military order of the first class to each of the 44th and 704th Infantry Brigades in appreciation of the valor demonstrated by their commanders, officers, and soldiers in repulsing the Iranian aggression and foiling its expansionist aims in the III Army Corps sector in southern Iraq.

VII Army Corps Actions Noted

JN211211 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1148 GMT 21 Jan 87

[Iraqi military spokesman's statement dated 21 January]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. The heroic VII Army Corps, through its fighters' efforts, continued to extend strong support to our valiant units in the heroic III Army Corps while they are defeating the remnants of aggressors. Our valiant and righteous men in the VII Army Corps greatly contributed to harvesting the scoundrel Khomeyniites with torrents of continuous fire by day and by night. At the same time, the heroes of the VII Army Corps achieved the following:

1. They pounded an enemy force, wiping out most of its estimated 400 personnel.

2. They annihilated 36 enemy scoundrels elsewhere.

3. They destroyed 13 ammunition dumps, 8 vehicles, 3 shovels [preceeding word in English], and 2 machine guns.

Blessed be the valiant righteous men of our VII Army Corps, commanders, officers, and other ranks. Deal more blows O lofty men to uproot the frightened and defeated enemy scoundrels.

[Dated] 21 January 1987.

II Army Corps Deeds Praised

JN211224 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1152 GMT 21 Jan 87

[Iraqi military spokesman's statement dated 21 January]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. The heroic Ii Army Corps, the maker of glorious victories, everyday scores a new epic in which it achieves victory over the enemies of God and mankind and embodies the Iraqi fighter's superiority to defeat the renegade enemies. Our men in this heroic corps achieved the following:

1. An enemy group estimated at 500 personnel attempted to approach our positions. The brave men of artillery and mortars pounded it and most of its personnel were annihilated. The rest of the group fled.

2. Elsewhere in the sector, an enemy platoon was pounded, most of its personnel were wiped out, and the rest fled.

3. In various areas in the sector, enemy groups totalling approximately 75 personnel were spotted. Our men wiped out most of them.

Blessed be our heroic II Army Corps, commanders, officers, and other ranks. O loyal men, watch your enemy for only a few remnants remain of it. Final victory is close.

[Dated] 21 January 1987

Saddam Husayn Tells King Husayn of 'Victories'

JN202023 Baghdad INA in Arabic 2000 GMT 20 Jan 87

[Text] Amman, 20 Jan (INA) — President Saddam Husayn this evening telephoned his brother His Majesty King Husayn of Jordan. During the telephone conversation, President Saddam Husayn affirmed the splendid victories achieved by the Iraqi Armed Forces in defeating the Iranian offensive and in completely destroying the main Iranian attacking forces, inflicting heavy losses on them. His excellency also affirmed the Iraqi forces' absolute control of the situation on the warfronts after teaching the Iranian enemy a hard lesson in defending Iraq's territory and the Arab nation.

His Majesty King Husayn expressed to the president the pride of Jordan and the Arab nation in the brave confrontation by Iraq and its valiant Armed Forces of the Iranian aggression, expansionist ambitions, and desperate attempts to encroach on Iraq's territory and the Arab nation. King Husayn said that the Iraqi Army's heroic epics will remain a source of pride for the Arab nation, and that Iraq, God willing, will remain the impregnable bastion.

Iraqi President Phones King Husayn on 'Victory'

JN201827 Amman Television Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 20 Jan 87

[Text] His Excellency Iraqi President Saddam Husayn telephoned his brother His Majesty King Husayn this evening and gave his majesty the good tidings of the victory of the triumphant Iraqi forces over the aggressor Iranian forces, which attempted to harm Iraq's territory and steadfastness. His Excellency President Saddam Husayn affirmed the Iraqi forces have defeated the Iranian offensive and completely destroyed the main Iranian attacking force, inflicting heavy human and material losses on it.

His Excellency Saddam Husayn affirmed the Iraqi forces' absolute control of the situation on the warfronts after teaching the Iranian enemy a hard lesson in defending Iraq's territory and the Arab nation.

His Majesty King Husayn expressed to His Excellency President Saddam Husayn the pride of Jordan and the Arab nation in Iraq and its valiant Armed Forces' brave confrontation of the Iranian aggression, expansionist ambitions, and desperate attempt to harm Iraq's territory and the Arab nation.

His majesty said the Iraqi Army's heroic epics will remain a source of pride for the Arab nation, affirming that Iraq, God willing, will remain the impregnable wall on which the Iranian enemy's ambitions to occupy precious parts of Arab territory will founder.

U.S. Shows 'True Colors' by 'Misleading' Iraq

JN191035 Amman JORDAN TIMES in English 13 Jan 87 p 4

[Editorial: "Every Trick in the Book"]

[Text] Iraqi Deputy Prime Minister Taha Yasin Ramadan expressed the feelings of millions of Arabs when he described as immoral the U.S. act of supplying Iran with weapons and Iraq with misleading intelligence information in order to ensure the continuation of the war and use the Iranian threat to pressure the Gulf states into accepting U.S. intervention and the setting up of an American military base in the Gulf region. That the U.S. would use every trick in the book to return Iran to the American camp was not a big surprise to many, and particularly the Iraqis, right from the beginning. But what is surprising and indeed immoral is for the U.S. to go as far as dealing with sponsors of international terrorism, supplying them with weapons, and then providing their enemy with false information. If such examples of U.S.-Iranian cooperation and coordination are not enough to convince the parties which still give Tehran the benefit of the doubt, one need not go any further than seeing the pivotal role of Israel in the whole Iran scandal in its true perspective. It must be remembered that Israeli officials during the time of Prime Minister Shim'on Peres actively played the role of broker between Washington and Tehran and led the U.S. policymakers, from U.S. President Ronald Reagan down, a merry dance along the path of cooperation and duplicity between the parties of the infamous tripartite alliance.

It would be an understatement to say merely that the U.S. had lost credibility in our region. The U.S. has also lost respect and friends. When Iraqi officials now disclose that the misleading information about Iranian troop movements, which the special intelligence unit set up at the U.S. Embassy in Baghdad had supplied to the Iraqis, had led to the loss of Al-Faw Island near the Kuwaiti frontier, they are in effect shedding light on U.S. intentions and interests in our region. What is even more relevant and disturbing for us in this region of the world is that the U.S. has shown its true colours and has decisively chosen to reduce the number of its true friends in the Middle East in such a manipulating and underhand way.

Al-Rifa'i, Officials Return From European Tour

JN171832 Amman Television Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 17 Jan 87

[Text] Prime Minister Zayd al-Rifa'i, Armed Forces Commander in Chief Staff General Al-Sharif Zayd ibn Shakir, and Foreign Minister Tahir al-Masri returned to Amman this evening after taking part in the official talks which His Majesty King Husayn held with His Excellency French President Francois Mitterrand, His Excellency Italian President Francesco Cossiga, and senior officials in the two countries as well as with His Holiness Pope John Paul II and a number of officials in the Vatican.

They were received at Amman airport by the deputy prime minister, a number of ministers, the chief of staff and his aides, and the Armed Forces inspector general.

Minister of Information Returns From Syria

JN161715 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 16 Jan 87

[Text] Information Minister Muhammad al-Khatib has returned to Amman after participating on behalf of Jordan in the contacts held by the Arab seven-man committee with concerned parties in Damascus and Beirut with a view to ending the fighting in the Palestinian camps in Lebanon.

During his stay in Damascus, Al-Khatib met with Syria's Minister of Information Yasin Rajjuh and discussed ways to increase information cooperation between the two fraternal countries.

On hand to see the minister off in Damascus were Rajjuh and his assistant, the Jordanian ambassador in Damascus, and heads of information departments.

Foreign Ministry Supports UN Meeting on Gulf War

JN171143 Amman JORDAN TIMES in English 17 Jan 87 p 1

[Excerpt] Amman (J.T.) — Jordan has expressed support for a call by United Nations Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar for a special meeting of the U.N. Security Council at the foreign ministers level to discuss the Iran-Iraq war.

A spokesman for the Foreign Ministry in Amman said the Jordanian Government has received with appreciation and interest the secretary general's proposal.

"Jordan welcomes this idea and considers it as a manifestation of a high level of concern over the Gulf conflict, and announces its total backing for the United Nations to implement U.N. Security Council Resolution 582 regarding the Gulf war." the spokesman said.

The Foreign Ministry later cabled U.N. permanent representative at the United Nations in New York requesting him to convey this view to Mr. Perez de Cuellar. [passage omitted]

Armed Forces Commander Receives SFRY Envoy 19 Jan
JN191331 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic
1200 GMT 19 Jan 87

[Text] Amman — Staff General Al-Sharif Zayd ibn Shakir, commander in chief of the Jordanian Armed Forces, received Brigadier General (Boven Matchiovish), envoy of the SFRY federal secretary for national defense, at his office at the General Command this morning. The commander in chief met with the SFRY envoy for some time.

The meeting was attended by the chief of staff, his assistant for administration, and the SFRY ambassador in Amman.

Crown Prince Leaves for United Kingdom 19 Jan
JN191626 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic
1600 GMT 19 Jan 87

[Excerpts] His Highness Crown Prince Hasan, the regent, left Amman today on a visit to the United Kingdom to last for a few days. [passage omitted]

His Highness Prince 'Abdallah ibn al-Husayn was sworn in as regent during his highness' absence from the homeland in the presence of Prince Hasan and the Cabinet members.

'Successful' Effort in Europe Worries Israel
JN181400 Amman AL-RA'Y in Arabic 18 Jan 87
pp 1, 18

[Editorial: "Keeping the Pledge"]

[Text] It is obvious that the Israeli aggressors and their allies have been worried and annoyed by the successful Jordanian effort in the European arena, recently led by King Husayn, especially after the emergence of evidence showing development in the European stand and also the possibility of Europe's participation in the efforts aimed at implementing UN resolutions on the settlement of the Arab-Israeli conflict.

As usual, U.S. and Israeli propaganda machines resorted to transforming this worry and annoyance into a punitive measure that took the form of psychological warfare campaigns against Jordan on the one hand, and harming Jordan and hindering its efforts aimed at unifying Arab ranks, on the other.

Because these campaigns, and those which preceded them, are prompted by the same motives and objectives, we are quite sure that their fate will will not be different from the fates of previous campaigns. We are quite certain these campaigns will result in abject failure in both the Arab and international arenas.

It must be emphasized that the malicious campaigns and falsehoods, no matter how strong, will never make Jordan abandon its pan-Arab stand. Jordan will never back down from its decisive rejection of bilateral negotiations and partial solutions; neither will it weaken its efforts calling for the convocation of an international conference. Jordan will continue to call for holding the international conference, to win support for holding this conference, and to explain to others its objective -- the implementation of the international resolutions on the settlement of the Arab-Israeli conflict and the comprehensive handling of the Palestine question.

Jordan has reiterated and still emphasizes that it will not be a substitute for the PLO or act as a proxy for the Palestinian people in the peace process. This stand will remain unchanged and will not be affected by the falsehoods and calumniations propagated by the Israeli aggressors and their allies. Intimidation and temptation will never succeed in making Jordan abandon its pan-Arab course. Jordan will move ahead in its efforts to close Arab ranks and rally Arab resources to enable the Arabs to utilize the development we are witnessing in the European stand toward our cause in a manner that benefits the cause and puts an end to the standstill in the peace process, which the Israeli aggressors and their allies seek to perpetuate. Jordan will always keep the pledge toward the Arab nation, even if this brings the hatred and annoyance of malicious parties.

Waite on Meeting With Kidnappers, Extends Stay

NC210714 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0615 GMT 21 Jan 87

[Text] Anglican Church envoy Terry Waite has announced he has had fresh talks with the kidnappers of foreigners in Lebanon. He affirmed he will continue with his mission. He added that events now necessitate his stay and that he has postponed his departure following last night's talks with the kidnappers. It is not known when he will leave Lebanon.

Reportedly Meets Hostages

NC211515 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1445 GMT 21 Jan 87

[Text] REUTER has cited PSP official Jihad al-Zuhayri as saying that Anglican Church envoy Terry Waite was taken for a meeting with the hostages [not further specified] today.

Waite left the Riviera Hotel, where he is staying, 19 hours ago, according to the REUTER report, which was received this afternoon.

Further on Kidnapping of West German Citizen

Hizballah on Exchange Plan

LD201644 Hamburg DPA in German 1601 GMT 20 Jan 87

[Excerpt] Bonn, 20 Jan (DPA) — Rudolf Cordes, the Hoechst manager abducted in Beirut, is in the hands of the Hizballah, the Shi'ite group. As DPA has learned in Bonn, the abductors wish to exchange him for 'Ali Hamadih, the Lebanese arrested at Frankfurt on 13 January. A brother of Hamadih's is security boss of the Hezbollah and has "staged" the abduction, it was learned. [passage omitted]

Iranian Envoy Denies Link

LD201746 Hamburg DPA in German 1706 GMT 20 Jan 87

[Text] [No dateline as received] — The Iranian ambassador to Bonn, Mohammad Javad Salari, hopes [abducted Hoechst manager] Cordes will soon be freed and able to return to his family. He told the Cologne newspaper *Express* (Wednesday edition) that Iran had nothing to do with the kidnapping. He cannot understand why a German of all people should have been taken. He believes the arrest in Frankfurt of 'Ali Hamadih provided the background to the affair. Mediation is difficult. The Shi'ite Hizballah wants a revolution similar to that in Iran but is acting independently.

Sources Confirm Kidnapping of 2d FRG Citizen

LD211521 Hamburg DPA in German 1439 GMT 21 Jan 87

[Text] Beirut, 21 Jan (DPA) — Lebanese security circles in East and West Beirut today confirmed the kidnapping of 46-year-old medical technician Alfred Schmidt. According to this source, Schmidt was kidnapped from his hotel room during the night by unknown armed men. A spokesman for the Lebanese Armed Forces had earlier denied reports that Schmidt may have already left Lebanon.

Schmidt's disappearance was discovered this morning when three Lebanese colleagues with whom he was working on the installation of medical equipment for a new hospital came to pick him up as usual. His baggage was still in his hotel room.

'Mystery' Group Threatens Italy Over Detainees

NC201536 Paris AFP in English 1526 GMT 20 Jan 87

[Text] Beirut, Jan 20 (AFP) — A mystery group, the "Supporters of God" demanding better conditions and the rapid release of two of its "brothers" held in an Italian jail, Tuesday threatened the Italian defence minister, the governor of the prison in which they are being held and all Italian citizens.

The group, which made a similar threat on January 5, threatened to assassinate the "so-called Italian defence minister (Giovanni Spadolini) and the governor of Spoleto jail" in Umbria, central Italy.

In a statement to a news agency here, the group also threatened to "kidnap, torture and kill, if necessary, every Italian citizen throughout the world and especially in Lebanon."

It also threatened to "dynamite the Italian Embassy", situated in the Moslem-majority western sector of Beirut, and insisted it was also capable of striking in the (Christian) eastern sector.

"Our ultimate objective will be the hijacking of the Italian airline (Alitalia)," the statement added.

"This is a further warning, perhaps the last...If you do not release our brothers Salih and 'Abdallah" it warned.

The two men referred to are presumed to be 'Abdallah al-Dawsari, 25, and Salih 'Ali Husayn al-Khalifah, 28, who were arrested at Rome Airport in possession of three kgs (6.6 lbs) of explosives in May, 1984.

The Beirut office of the Italian press agency ANSA received a similar warning on January 5 from the same previously unknown group.

A group of "Arab political detainees" held in the same prison on September 9 went on hunger strike to "protest against racist and discriminatory treatment" in Spoleto prison.

Paris: French Destroyer Cruises Off Lebanon

LD211548 Paris Domestic Service in French 1500 GMT 21 Jan 87

[Text] The [French] national Navy is again cruising close to Lebanon. It is a new mission called (Oriflamme) which is scheduled to last 2 months, but it can be extended. The destroyer *Dubpleix* which carries two Lynx helicopters on board, has received the order to stay at sea off the coast of Lebanon for 48 hours. This mission is a follow up to the (Oliphon) mission which marked France's naval presence in this part of the Mediterranean from May 1982 to August 1986. The purpose of the (Oliphon) mission at that time was to allow France to face up to the situation in Lebanon and to transport French diplomats from Cyprus airport to Beirut by helicopter.

Nasirite Group Head Survives Assassination Try

6 Killed, 9 Wounded

NC182051 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 2015 GMT 18 Jan 87

[Excerpt] Mustafa Sa'd, Nasirite Popular Organization secretary general, escaped an assassination attempt in the Al-'Awza'i area at 1800 today. Meanwhile, PSP official Abu Haytham — Jamal Kararah — who was in a joint motorcade with Mustafa Sa'd, was seriously wounded and taken to the American University Hospital, where he underwent emergency surgery. Four of Sa'd's companions were killed and one wounded, while two of Abu Haytham's companions were killed and eight wounded in the incident. AFP has reported that Sa'd's car was hit by several bullets.

Following the attempt on his life, Mustafa Sa'd made a statement in Sidon, accusing Israel and its agents, both Muslim and Christian, of responsibility for the attempt and affirming that the incident falls within the framework of the camps war. [passage omitted]

Amal on 'Incident'

NC182154 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 2115 GMT 18 Jan 87

[Text] In a statement on the Al-Awza'i incident, an Amal Movement source has said that an argument took place between members of the motorcade carrying Mustafa Sa'd [Nasirite Popular Organization secretary general] and Amal gunmen at a roadblock in Al-Awza'i. The source said Sa'd's gunmen opened fire immediately, killing a member of the Al-Miqdad family.

The source adds that in the firefight that ensued, Abu Haytham, who happened to be passing in the area, was wounded. Amal said one of its gunmen and two of the socialist [PSP] gunmen were killed and that five members of the Nasirite Popular Organization were wounded in the exchange of fire.

Following the assassination attempt [against Mustafa Sa'd], gunmen from various parties appeared, particularly in the Al-Hamra area, where clashes took place between Amal and the socialists at approximately 1900.

Security officials have reported that socialist roadblocks have been erected in the areas of Mar Ilyas, the Nasir Restaurant, Karakas, Al-Hamra, the Soviet Embassy, Wata al-Musaytibah, and near the Al-Zuhayrah gasoline station. Amal gunmen also have appeared in Al-Tariq al-Jadidah, the municipal sportsfield, Abu Shakir Street, near the 'Abd al-Nasir center in Corniche al-Mazra'ah, Barbur, 'A'ishah Bakkar, and Al-Musaytibah. Amal and nationalist [Syrian Social Nationalist Party] gunmen also have established a joint roadblock near the Napoleone Hotel in Al-Hamra.

It has been reported that kidnappings and counterkidnappings have taken place at these roadblocks. The road between Khaldah and Sidon was closed following the establishment of the Amal and socialist roadblocks. It also has been reported from Sidon that the Nasirite organization established roadblocks in Sidon tonight, as well.

Amal-PSP Statement

NC190633 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0400 GMT 19 Jan 87

[Text] According to security sources, the security situation has returned to normal following the incident that took place yesterday. Acting in accordance with instructions from Ministers Nabih Birri and Walid Junblatt, Amal and PSP leaders, as well as Syrian observers, quickly worked to contain the incident. The two ministers called on all their respective personnel to end the incident as soon as possible, to eliminate any show of force, and to release all the people who had been kidnapped. Amal and PSP officials managed to withdraw all gunmen.

In a joint statement issued early today, a warning was given to Israel and its agents. The statement urged the people not to be deceived by tendentious rumors and to exercise restraint and vigilance. It reiterated the strong cohesion existing between the Amal Movement and the PSP. The statement also noted that any attempts made to create confusion, foment sedition, and to harm the national plan are doomed.

National and Islamic forces in Sidon called for a strike today to protest against internal fighting between sons of the same trench.

In another development, intermittent fighting involving the use of rockets and machineguns is currently raging along the combat lines of Burj al-Barajinah and Shatila.

PSP Condemns Attack

NC191056 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 1000 GMT 19 Jan 87

[Text] The PSP Politbureau held a meeting this morning under the chairmanship of Walid Junblatt. Recent political and security developments were discussed during this session.

The conferees also viewed the recent incident involving eng Mustafa Sa'd, leader of the Nasirite Popular Organization, and PSP official Abu Haytham. They strongly denounced this incident which may have caused further division in the nationalist arena in favor of Israeli goals and those of the enemies of our homeland.

The Politbureau members congratulated eng Mustafa Sa'd on his safe escape. They called for vigilance against the attempts being made to create discord within the nationalist ranks. They stressed the need to act to contain this incident. They also called for stabilizing the security situation in accordance with an effective plan capable of curbing devious elements and violations.

Birri, Junblatt Meet

NC191830 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 19 Jan 87

[Text] Amal and PSP representatives held a second meeting at 1830 tonight at the Syrian observers' headquarters. It was agreed earlier that all detainees held by Amal and the PSP would be freed. During this meeting, stress was laid on the need to implement the measures agreed upon at the first meeting, providing for the deployment of joint patrols in areas where both Amal and the PSP are present and for the withdrawal of gunmen from the streets.

According to security sources, all detainees held by both sides have now been released.

Meanwhile, Amal Movement leader Nabih Birri and PSP leader Walid Junblatt met in Damascus today. They discussed security development and emphasized the existing alliance between the Amal Movement and PSP.

Commenting on the Al-Awza'i incident, Minister Birri said: This was a painful and regrettable accident.

Another meeting is expected to be held in Damascus tomorrow by Ministers Birri and Junblatt with Syrian Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam.

Coastal Road Reopens

NC211205 Beirut Voice of National Resistance in Arabic 1115 GMT 21 Jan 87

[Excerpt] The coastal road, which has been closed to traffic for several days, was reopened at 1300 in the wake of a meeting held by Amal Movement and PSP representatives. Joint patrols composed of PSP and Amal Movement members, as well as Syrian observers, have been formed for deployment along this road. [passage omitted]

'Technical' Agreement Signed With Jordan

TA210717 Tel Aviv 'AL HAMISHMAR in Hebrew 21 Jan 87 p 1

[Report by Middle East affairs correspondent 'Uzi Mahanaymi]

[Text] London — An envoy on behalf of Foreign Minister Shim'on Peres recently visited Jordan and signed a "technical agreement" on cooperation with the Jordanians. This was reported yesterday in London by reliable Jordanian sources. The sources added the envoy met in Jordan with King Husayn and with the Jordanian leadership, and the agreement he attained refers to cooperation between Jordan and Israel in various spheres, including the establishment of joint economic projects in the 'Arava and the development of the port of Haifa to handle the export of Jordanian products.

Our correspondent notes the agreement which, as mentioned, was learned about from sources close to Jordanian Prime Minister Zayd al-Rifa'i, was also confirmed by Saudi millionaire 'Adnan Khashuqji's secretary, who was party to the secret. According to the secretary, the talks on this matter began in late 1985 during a meeting held at the Regency Hotel in New York between 'Adnan Khashuqji and Shim'on Peres, with the participation of Avraham Tamir. The secretary, who was present at the meeting, recalled Shim'on Peres conveyed to Khashuqji his proposals for Jordanian- Israeli cooperation. 'Adnan Khashuqji first passed on these proposals to King Fahd and later to King Husayn, who rejected them outright. The proposals included a far-reaching plan for vast economic cooperation between Israel and Jordan which, if implemented, would lead to greater cooperation between the two nations and to economic prosperity.

Recently, after King Husayn signaled his willingness to promote the "Peres plan," one of Shim'on Peres' most trustworthy associates was sent to Jordan to try to consolidate at least the main points of Peres' plan. The Jordanian sources in London stressed the technical agreement reached is conditional upon Israel's willingness to progress toward a peace agreement with Jordan and the Palestinians. To this end, the Jordanians suggested Israel meet with Colonel Abu al-za'im ['Atallah 'Atallah], Jordan's substitute for 'Arafat, to get to know him and to reach some arrangement with him. Our correspondent also draws attention to rumors rife last week about a meeting between King Husayn and Shim'on Peres in the 'Arava. In addition, Arab sources in London mentioned recently King Husayn had rejected Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir's suggestion that they meet.

Peres Denies Agreement

TA210734 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 0625 GMT 21 Jan 87

[Interview over the telephone with Vice Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Shim'on Peres by Mikha Friedman and Ilana Dayan in the studio; "this morning," prior to Peres' departure for Europe —live]

[Excerpts] [Friedman] Good morning to you, Mr Peres. Did you have time this morning to read *'Al Hamishmar?*

[Peres] No.

[Friedman] The paper's headline states one of your envoys recently visited Jordan and worked out a technical agreement on cooperation which includes, among other things, joint projects in the 'Arava region and the opening of the Haifa Port for the export of Jordanian goods. Is there a similarity between the paper's report and what you know?

[Peres] If you will it, it is not a dream [quoting a statement by Binyamin Ze'ev Herzl, the visionary of the State of Israel], but for the time being this is only a dream. [passage omitted]

[Dayan] Mr Peres, you have not yet left on your European tour. We want to ask you about the trip you will make after your return from Europe. Is Cairo your next stop?

[Peres] Maybe.

[Dayan] Do you have an invitation for a visit?

[Peres] Yes, I do have an invitation in principle, but a date has not been set and the details have not been worked out yet.

[Dayan] Is the main topic you wish to discuss with President Mubarak the peace process or Israeli-Egyptian relations now that the Tabah issue is moving forward?

[Peres] Both matters. We should constantly foster the peace issue and bilateral relations. Nothing works out by itself. The age of automation has not yet reached diplomatic relations.

[Friedman] Mr Peres, King Husayn is still in Europe, and people will probably again try to find a time slot which has not been accounted for in your timetable to get the two of you together.

[Peres] There is no reason for me to try to do so. Europe is large enough to hold both of us, so we need not meet at any minute.

[Friedman] At any rate, is your timetable so full and busy that there is not a single moment for an unscheduled meeting?

[Dayan] Not even for a joint ski session with the king in Austria?

[Peres] No, I am not making a ski trip. If I have time for vacation, I prefer to spend it in Israel.

Orders Changed on IDF South Lebanon Activity

TA201310 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 20 Jan 87 p 2

[Report by military correspondent Re'uven Pedatzur]

[Excerpt] Several changes were made in the Northern Command to orders involving the activity of IDF soldiers in southern Lebanon in the wake of the incident in which a UNIFIL soldier from the Irish contingent was killed by an IDF tank shell.

Thus, for example, the security range around the UN posts has been expanded. This is the range within which it is strictly

forbidden to open fire. In addition, the soldiers were given a refresher course on the orders.

The investigation by a senior officer into the incident in which the Irish soldier was killed has been completed. It appears the conclusions will be publicized within a day or two. Senior military sources said yesterday it was obvious the incident did not occur because orders were not obeyed; rather, the reason was error. "There is no doubt the incident caused the IDF a great deal of harm," the sources noted.

The head of the Northern Command reported the killing of the Irish UNIFIL soldier by the IDF to the chief of staff a mere 10 minutes after it became known to him, said senior military sources yesterday.

According to these sources, the report was made by telephone to the home of the chief of staff. The sources were thereby reacting to claims the incident was not reported in time or the report was inaccurate. A report on the firing was conveyed to the operational elements in the General Staff within several minutes from the time the three shells were fired in the Bra'shit area. Some 10 minutes after the initial report on the firing, another report was conveyed which stated a shell had hit a UN position. In other words, the reports along this channel were also immediate and accurate, according to the information that was available at each given moment. [passage omitted]

Peres Says South Lebanese Army 'Recovering'
TA191850 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English
1800 GMT 19 Jan 87

[Text] Addressing schoolchildren in Nahariyya today, Foreign Minister Shim'on Peres dismissed claims that the South Lebanese Army [SLA] is on the verge of collapse. Vivien Royston reports:

[Begin recording][Royston] An army proves its mettle in difficult times, according to Foreign Minister Shim'on Peres. With Chief of Staff Moshe Levi's recent revelation that some 20 percent of the SLA have deserted, does Peres believe that the SLA is in danger of collapsing?

[Peres] I don't think so. I think it passed through a difficult period of time. But I think the latest events that took place at the end of the last weekend are showing a recovering of the SLA and of its strength.

[Royston] There was a suggestion in the United Nations from Israel that if it was possible to find a ceasefire in south Lebanon which lasted 6 months, Israel would be prepared to withdraw from the security zone. With whom should Israel sign a ceasefire in south Lebanon?

[Peres] I think you have put your finger on the issue. I mean there is nobody that we can sign with. The problem in south Lebanon is not the Israeli willingness or readiness to reach an arrangement which will enable all of forces to come back home. The real problem is the lack of a reliable partner that can provide the minimum of security necessary to keep the northern front of Israel in right shape.

[Royston] The reasons for the suggestion, according to Peres, was that on repeated occasions the United Nations has suggested just such a proposal. The problem remains the same, stressed Peres: Which force can guarantee the security of the northern border? [end recording]

Air Force Chief Says Lebanon Raids To Continue
TA201920 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English
1800 GMT 20 Jan 87

[Text] Israel's Air Force Commander General 'Amos Lapidot says that Israeli planes will continue to hit terrorist targets in Lebanon, including the Al-Biqa' Valley, and he sees no reason why this should lead to a clash with Syria. Lapidot says that while Syrian missiles are limiting Israeli activity, the Air Force will continue to mount what it considers our essential raids against terrorist positions in Lebanon. Israel's Air Force commander was answering questions from foreign military attaches who visited Israel's Defense School today. More from reporter Alan Ben-'ami:

[Begin recording] [Ben-'ami] The Israel Air Force has mounted a number of strikes this month against terrorist targets in Lebanon, and General Lapidot says the Air Force activity has proved to be particularly effective and accurate and has slowed down and interrupted the build-up of terrorist forces in Lebanon. Asked about the effect on Air Force operations of the missiles along the Syrian border, which also cover Lebanese airspace, General Lapidot had this to say:

[Lapidot] Actually, we didn't limit our activities in Lebanon very much. We fly almost in all the areas and in all the places that we flew before. It is correct that we must be a little more careful, to do it wisely and not just like that. When we see that there is a need, we fly in the Al-Biqa' Valley; we attack targets in the Al-Biqa' Valley if we locate targets and we decide that it is important to take care of them, to attack them; we did it only 1 or 2 weeks ago. And, if there is a real need then we fly. So, right now I don't see a reason to think that there is any escalation, and we continue to fly; this is our duty.

[Ben-'ami] Israel's Air Force commander said the Syrians are continuing to acquire weaponry and are due to get MIG-29's for their Air Force from the Soviet Union. However, says General Lapidot, while the arrival of the MIG-29 will make a quality change in the Syrian Air Force, he remains confident that Israel will develop the tactics and the fighting doctrine to deal with it. [end recording]

Views Potential Iraqi Threat
TA210543 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English
0500 GMT 21 Jan 87

[Text] Air Force Commander General 'Amos Lapidot says the Iraqi Air Force is gathering operational experience in the Gulf war which could pose Israel a potential threat in the future. Gen Lapidot was talking to foreign military attaches when they

visited Israel's air defense school yesterday. More from reporter Alan Ben-'ami:

[Begin recording] [Ben-'ami] Gen Lapidot says the Iraqis have built up a massive Air Force which is flying some 200 sorties a day against Iranian targets. The Iranians for their part have a limited and not very effective Air Force, says Gen Lapidot, and they also have a problem of being unable to fly many of the planes. Israel could face a future threat from the Iraqis, says the Air Force commander.

[Lapidot] Of course it is a potential threat, it is a potential enemy, and they gained operational experience which is very important. Also, right now, if we compare all their capabilities in comparison to what it was in 1973 or 1967 for example, they have much better ranges. They don't need to deploy their forces to airfields in Jordan or Syria. They can operate their aircraft directly from Iraqi terrain, Iraqi territory, and attack targets in Israel.

[Ben-'ami] Gen Lapidot warned, however, that Israel would not necessarily wait for Iraqi forces to reach Israeli front lines.

[Lapidot] If the Iraqis send forces to fighting that takes place in this area, we will try to meet them and hit them as far from our border, as close to Iraq maybe. From time to time we even get into Iraq and do something there.

[Ben-'ami] Israel continues to believe that it is better to hit and defeat enemy forces as far away as possible, said Gen Lapidot. [end recording]

Peres on South Africa Sanctions, Iran Affair

TA201909 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English
1800 GMT 20 Jan 87

[Text] Foreign Minister Peres says he hopes to visit Cairo next month for talks on chances for peace in the Middle East. The foreign minister denied that Israel is hesitant to impose sanctions on South Africa, but added that Israel will not be a leader in this. He also rejected Egyptian and Jordanian charges that Israel's participation in the supply of arms to Iran had hampered the Middle East process. Jack Katzenell reports:

[Begin recording] [Katzenell] Shim'on Peres was speaking to foreign correspondents one day before leaving on a trip to Western Europe. He was asked about the reports that Israeli economic experts are opposed to sanctions against South Africa because of Israel's commercial interests there. Peres said these interests are not as big as people think, and it is not true that Israel is unwilling to impose sanctions. But in this she would not be ahead of the other Western countries.

[Peres] Israel is not a leading country in formulating global policies, and we are not going to lead a policy concerning South Africa.

[Katzenell] Israel had consistently voted against apartheid, Peres said, and is implementing the United Nations resolutions on the issue. The foreign minister was asked how much harm the Irangate affair had done to the peace process since Egypt and Jordan are accusing Israel of siding with Iran in the Gulf war. He replied that Israel had not taken sides while Egypt and Jordan had.

[Peres] Does anybody tell the Arab countries which side to take in this conflict? Are they asking for permission to do so? I mean, did we say, for example, a word about the fact that Jordan is the main traffic road of sending arms to Iraq, some of them passing rather close to our own frontier?

[Katzenell] There is nothing wrong with trying to secure the release of hostages, Shim'on Peres said, nor with trying to find out about the Iran of tomorrow. [end recording]

Shamir Briefs Committee on Foreign Affairs

TA191400 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
1100 GMT 19 Jan 87

[Text] Today the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee held a session with the prime minister. With a report on the main topics and highlights made by Mr Shamir, our correspondent Razi Barqay:

[Barqay] First of all, there was a firm denial by Shamir of statements attributed to him by the REUTER news agency, remarks implied in an interview he granted to that news agency. As will be recalled, these remarks could be read to herald an easing in Shamir's position toward arrangements in Judaea and Samaria. The prime minister told the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee today, and I quote: All this talk about a change in my position is ridiculous. I would be prepared to change my tactics, but as far as the substance is concerned, there is no change. It is absurd to think Israel would make territorial concessions in Eretz Yisra'el, the prime minister said, but at the same time announce we will conduct negotiations without preconditions.

In reply to Knesset Member Yosi Sarid, who claimed the Murphy to the area was a failure, the prime minister saw positive aspects to the visit. The headline we can write from his remarks is: Jordan and Egypt, Shamir said, talk about peace as a goal, although there are differences of opinion on the way to obtain it. Please pay attention: He said Jordan and Egypt. We will encourage those who desire negotiations, the prime minister said, and the report I got from Murphy is positive.

Regarding the incorporation of the Soviet Union in the peace process, the prime minister said: We want to see an improvement in our relations with the Soviets, but what they have shown to date is merely a cosmetic change. So, for the moment, the Soviet Union is out.

There is no change in the U.S. position negating an international conference, Mr Shamir said. But certainly, if the United States hears different tunes from Israel, it could change its position, as well. This is an indirect criticism by the prime minister of those Alignments members who support an international conference.

As to the Iran arms deal, which was also broached by the committee, the prime minister said: Our objective has always

been to encourage moderate elements in Iran, but we were not the moving force in the matter.

The last topic was South Africa. We are not enthusiastic about the method of imposing sanctions, which the West is trying to employ against South Africa. There is a large Jewish community in that country, which is a central consideration here, Yitzhaq Shamir told the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee today.

Lavi Completes Third Test Flight 19 Jan

TA191014 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1000 GMT 19 Jan 87

[Text] The Lavi aircraft flew its third test flight this morning. The flight lasted 40 minutes at an altitude of 12,000 feet and at a velocity of 200 knots. The Israel Aircraft Industries [IAI] has reported the Lavi's stability tests were completed today and various other systems in the aircraft will be checked.

Our military correspondent Shmu'el Tal reports the IAI will complete an examination of the Lavi alternatives suggested by the U.S. deputy under secretary of defense in the next few days. After a similar examination is completed in the IDF and the Defense Ministry, a decision will be made on how to respond to the U.S. proposals. Sources in the defense establishment have said apparently the final decision on the future of the Lavi will ultimately be made by the Cabinet.

U.S. Proposals 'Fantastic'

TA151440 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 15 Jan 87 p 2

[Report by the defense correspondent]

[Text] Tel Aviv — The Defence Ministry official charged with checking U.S. proposals for alternatives to the Lavi warplane has dismissed some of the American suggestions as "a bit fantastic."

Tat-Aluf [Brigadier General] Menahem 'Eyni, head of the Lavi project in the Ministry, made the comment in an interview published yesterday in *Bamahane*, the IDF weekly.

'Eyni said the proposals made by U.S. Assistant Deputy Secretary of Defence Dov Zakheim were less realistic than ideas Israel had already rejected, he said.

"We've already thought of all the possible alternatives," 'Eyni said in reply to a question. "They left here a document containing thousands of pages which ought to be studied," 'Eyni said. But he added that some of the proposals seemed "a bit fantastical."

The F-18 is a very expensive plane and the proposal to buy F-16's of the type Israel already has and install Lavi avionics in them "is not realistic."

Installing the Israeli avionics would put the programme "three years back" because thousands of boxes and dozens of antennas have been designed to fit the Lavi, he said. A change would require designers to "begin all the development from scratch."

Moreover, 3,000 to 4,000 people engaged in developing the Lavi would be fired, he added.

ALGERIA

Ibrahimi Interviewed on Foreign Policy

LD171747 Algiers APS in English 1251 GMT 17 Jan 87

[Text] Algiers, 17/1/87 (APS) — Being true to itself and along with an internal policy rigorously in accordance with the external one, Algeria promotes a regional and an international policy which takes into care its belonging to the Arab Maghreb, to the Arab world, to Africa, to the Islamic world and the Mediterranean, Dr Ahmed Taleb Ibrahimi foreign minister pointed out in an interview granted to the Algerian weekly *Revolution Africaine*.

It is identified, he added, at the universal level with the non-aligned spirit for the advent of a qualitatively better life able to measure up to the humanity's aspirations for peace, justice and progress.

Concerning the conditions to convene a Maghrebian summit, Dr Ahmed Taleb Ibrahimi said that the "major obstacle to the edification of the Arab Maghreb still remains the Western Saharan conflict" for the Moroccan Kingdom stubbornly refuses to solve politically the issue by starting direct negotiations with Polisario Front, Dr Ahmed Taleb Ibrahimi further added.

In these conditions, a Maghreb summit cannot truly meet with the Maghreb peoples' wishes unless it sets to itself as a priority objective the reconciliation of the Moroccan and the Saharan peoples, and all the basic elements able to guarantee its success are gathered, the head of the Algerian diplomacy said.

Dr Ahmed Taleb Ibrahimi reminded that Algeria appealed in 1983 for the convening of a Maghrebian summit and made its utmost to settle down disputes through negotiations and for a political solution of the Western Saharan conflict which will result from the Saharan and the Moroccan meeting". [quotation mark as received]

Answering a question on OAU and UN mission of good offices, the head of Algerian diplomacy said: The two warring sides' stands deeply differ on fundamental questions according to reports of the exploration contacts issued by the OAU and UN secretary general.

Regarding the Arab world, and to a question on the state of preparations of the Arab summit, Dr Taleb Ibrahimi said that "consultations led by Algeria, as president of the 86th session of the Arab League Council of Ministers and on the mandate of that one are still underway".

Answering further a question on the approaches undertaken in order to raise the obstacles of the holding of a session of the Palestinian National Council (PNC), the head of the Algerian diplomacy declared that the "appeal launched by President Chadli for the resumption of the inter-Palestinian dialogue for the reunification of the Palestinian resistance had a considerable impact on the Arab and Palestinian bases".

LIBYA

Weekly Says Chad 'Natural Extension' of Libya

LD201730 Tripoli JANA in English 1416 GMT 20 Jan 87

[Text] Tripoli, Ay Alnar 20, Jamahiriyah News Agency — The *Green March* weekly out yesterday in its commentary entitled 'Tit for Tat' says whoever believes that the U.S. and NATO will stop their aggression after the defeats inflicted upon them by the Libyan Arabslast March and April is both short-sighted and deluded with false hopes, for the imperialist-Zionist-reactionary trio is still concocting plots against striving peoples worldwide as recently seen by the direct U.S.-French military intervention in Chad.

Chad, the weekly adds, geographically and demographically is a natural extension of Libya, whereas there is nothing to bind it with France except the dark colonial record.

This U.S.-French intervention in Chad is basically targetting Great Al-Jamahiriyah and puppet Habre is no more than a means to achieve this end. The weekly adds that the revolutionary march in Africa is still going on.

Any part in Africa lost by France means that it has lost one of its footholds in this continent.

There are common denominators between the struggles waged in the Philippines, El Salvador, Honduras, South Africa, Chad and occupied Palestine.

The dividing up of the world into two camps is the de facto reality, one of liberation and the other being of imperialism, the paper stresses.

All of these striving peoples worldwide aim at achieving their freedom through their struggle against the imperialists.

The paper adds that the imperialists aim to make Chad an outpost for waging aggression against Great Al-Jamahiriyah.

The Chadian people know quite well that the Arabs are a people with a distinct great culture.

These Arabs have entered Africa to fight backwardness, epidemics and that is why they have built so many schools, hospitals, etc. Whereas the Europeans have invaded Africa to rob it of its natural resources and have trampled down the civilizations and cultures of the African people.

The paper stresses that France is collaborating in another aggression against Great Al-Jamahiriyah.

This question is purely an internal one and should be resolved by the Africans through the Organization of African Unity.

Any new aggression against Great Al-Jamahiriyah, the paper adds, will be foiled in the same way as the latest U.S.-NATO aggression launched last April.

The Libyan Arab people is on the standby to batter the French troops should France want to escalate the situation. Surely, they will meet their doom as did the Americans earlier.

GUNT President On Contacts With Other Countries

LD210250 Tripoli Voice of Greater Arab Homeland in Arabic 0015 GMT 21 Jan 87

[Text] Last night [20 Jan], Acheikh Ibn Oumar, president of the new Chadian GUNT, arrived in Tripoli after a visit to Algeria, during which he explained the dimensions of the conspiracy against the Chadian people by the clique of the mutinous Habre with the direct military support of France and the United States.

Acheikh Ibn Omumar made a statement to JANA's correspondent, saying: Because of the military escalation in Chad, as a result of the blatant interference of France and U.S. imperialism on the side of the hireling regime in Ndjamena, it was the duty of GUNT to contact African and Arab countries to inform them about events in Chad, to reply to what is relayed by presumptious trumpets and the biased Western media, and to discuss ways of ending the Chadian crisis so that the Chadian people can live freely and independently in their land. This is the basic goal of this visit.

He added that there is an extensive program to carry out such visits to other Arab and African countries.

Statement Issued on Algerian Minister's Visit

LD202227 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1730 GMT 20 Jan 87

[Text] Tripoli, 20 Jan (JANA) — A press statement was issued today following the visit by the Algerian information minister to the Great Jamahiriyah. Both sides confirmed the need to develop further bilateral cooperation in the fields of culture and information between the two sister countries through the exchange of visits between cultural and media establishments. This falls within the context of the unionist action and cooperation between the two countries, and it further consolidates the ties of fraternity and cooperation between the two countries in implementation of the summit meeting held in the Algerian town of 'Ayn Imnas in January 1987 between the brother leader Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, leader of the great 1 September Revolution, and President Chadli Bendjedid.

Algerian Information Minister Brother Bachir Rouis paid a 3-day visit to the Great Jamahiriyah during which he had talks with the brother secretary of the People's General Committee for Information and Culture and with a number of secretaries of the information and press establishments in the Great Jamahiriyah. He signed a joint information agreement on information cooperation in keeping with the unionist expectations of the sons of the Arab nation in the two countries for furthering the objectives and ambitions of comprehensive Arab unity.

Details of Agreement

LD202226 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1730 GMT 20 Jan 87

[Text] Tripoli, 20 Jan — Today in Tripoli cooperation agreements were signed between the Algerian national television organization and that of the Great Jamahiriyah, and between the Algerian national radio organization and the radio of the Great Jamahiriyah.

The two agreements form strong bonds between two fraternal countries that work together for unity and progress.

The radio agreement specifies the exchange of [word indistinct] experience in various radio fields, and also the regular exchange of political, economic, social, cultural, and scientific programs. Furthermore, each country will carry reports about the other country's political, economic, social, and cultural life.

The agreement also specifies that the two fraternal countries should coordinate their stances in regional and international radio meetings and conferences. The agreement stressed that both radios should relay special radio programs about the each other's national occasions.

The television agreement includes the exchange of news concerning political, economic, social, and cultural life, and sports events, through the Arab Center for the Exchange of Television News and Programs.

The agreement specifies that each side should assist the other with exchanges through international and regional news networks.

The agreement also specifies that each country will report about the other country, and the exchange of the necessary [word indistinct] assistant during official visits, sports, and artistic occasions.

The agreement stresses that each country will celebrate the national day of the other country by relaying special programs. The agreement also encourages joint television productions and calls on both sides to coordinate their stances at international and regional television meetings and conferences.

Agreement on News Agencies

LD202154 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1735 GMT 20 Jan 87

[Excerpts] Tripoli, 20 Jan — JANA and APS today in Tripoli signed an agreement of cooperation. [passage omitted]

The agreement specified [word indistinct] and using the news services of the two agencies, and appointing correspondents in both countries and giving them all the professional facilities.

The agreement also specified the exchange of experience in the fields of editing, photography, technology, and it encouraged joint training programs.

[Word indistinct] the agreement specified that each partner will rely primarily on news the other country relays concerning all the

national events in each country, and that the two sides will work to stress the positive pan-Arab and international stances of each country and to consolidate patriotic pan-Arab understanding in the two countries.

MAURITANIA

Soviet Official Arrives for Working Visit

LD171446 Nouakchott Domestic Service in Arabic 2030 GMT 16 Jan 87

[Text] Viktor Posuvalyuk, chief of the North Africa Department of the Near Eastern and North African countries administration at the Soviet Foreign Ministry, has arrived in Nouakchott on a working visit to our country. He was received by (Mohamed Mahmoud Ould Mohamed Fadal), head of the European and American section at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation.

In a statement to the Mauritanian news agency, Posuvalyuk said that the purpose of his visit is to resume contacts with the Mauritanian officials and to discuss matters of mutual cooperation. He added that consolidation of cooperation with Mauritania is of special importance because Mauritania is an active member of the United Nations, the OAU, and the Arab League.

He said that his country, which is waging an active war against (?armament), wishes to express its views on this matter and the serious problems of the world.

MOROCCO

Spanish Interior Minister Arrives for Visit

LD201408 Rabat Domestic Service in Arabic 1300 GMT 20 Jan 87

[Excerpt] Spanish Interior Minister Jose Barrionuevo today began an official 2-day visit to Morocco. Immediately after his arrival in Rabat he held a meeting with Minister of Interior and Information Driss Basri.

In a statement to journalists on his arrival this morning at Rabat-Sale Airport, Mr Barrionuevo spoke about his visit to Morocco and the bilateral relations between the two countries. Mr Barrionuevo said that he is delighted with his visit to Morocco to meet his Moroccan counterpart, Driss Basri, and to discuss with him the various topics concerning bilateral relations. These relations were described by the Spanish interior minister as good. He said that his visit will be an opportunity to consolidate and strengthen these relations.

An important delegation is accompanying the Spanish interior minister. He was welcomed at Rabat-Sale Airport by Mr Driss Basri. [passage omitted]

Barrionuevo Interviewed

LD210014 Madrid Domestic Service in Spanish 1900 GMT 20 Jan 87

[Text] This morning Interior Minister Jose Barrionuevo started an official 2-day visit to Morocco to review bilateral relations. As far as we know, Barrionuevo has had two meetings today with his Moroccan counterpart, Driss Basri. What were the results of these meetings, Mr Minister?

[Barrionuevo, live from Morocco] I think the results confirmed what we already believed, namely that we have great prospects for expanding and deepening our relations with Morocco, which are already quite good. We have found that the same applies to specific matters of concern to the Ministries of the Interior,

[Announcer] These are perhaps talks that could continue at a higher level. Can you now confirm to us that you are going to be received by King Hassan II?

[Barrionuevo] Yes. Yes, I think that I shall be able to see his majesty the king tomorrow. He has been kind enough to grant me an audience.

[Announcer] In what terms has the problem of Ceuta and Melilla been raised, Mr Minister?

[Barrionuevo] The simple fact is that it has not been raised because it is not the object of our talks here. Our talks are concerned with problems that come under the interior departments. Consequently nothing has been discussed with regard to these two cities in a direct or specific way. They have only been discussed insofar as Spain or Spanish territory as a whole has been discussed, that is, those questions that affect both countries — namely, the situation of Moroccans in Spain and of Spaniards in Morocco, the problems concerning drug trafficking, problems arising over collaboration on different police matters or matters relating to the rescue services. Those questions apply to these two cities in the same way that they apply to any other part of Spanish territory; there has been no particular treatment of the two cities.

[Announcer] Did the name of Mohamedi Dudu crop up in any of your talks?

[Barrionuevo] No. It honestly did not. It frankly did not.

[Announcer] A final question, Mr Minister: How are the investigations going in connection with the recent arrest of the so-called Madrid Commando [of ETA]?

[Barrionuevo] As you know, the police are now working on it; really, there is still some time to go because the study of the documents and information which have been seized will take some time to evaluate and, let's say, to be used in their entirety. The police proceedings for the transfer of the detainees to the jurisdiction of the courts, and the transfer of the effects and information which have been seized, will take place this week. As far as the news media are concerned, we intend to provide a recapitulation of everything at the end of the week — on Thursday or Friday, I think — a report on everything that has been done. We shall also show the media the items that have been

seized and other things. This over and above what has already been done.

Spanish Nationalists Plan Melilla Demonstrations

LD201512 Rabat MAP in English 1254 GMT 20 Jan 87

[Text] Madrid, Jan 20 (MAP) — The Spanish Nationalist Party of Melilla (extreme right) [PNEM] is planning to hold demonstrations July 29 and February 5 [dates as received] in the city of Melilla, a Spanish enclave on the northern Moroccan coast, to protest the situation prevailing in the enclave and what it describes as "the lack of firmness of action of the socialist government and the delay in the implementation of a strict control of the frontier with Morocco."

For this purpose, the PNEM addressed on Saturday a request to the delegation of the Spanish Government in the enclave to ask for authorization. The demonstrators will carry flags of Spain and Melilla and will chant slogans in English such as "I Love Margaret" and "Help, Margaret" to express their admiration for the policy of British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher who advocates firmness in the defense of the British-held Gibraltar rock. By doing so, the demonstrators want to draw the attention of Spanish policy-makers to the situation in the enclave and to pressure them into "imposing an adequate policy in Melilla."

The leader of the PNEM Gonzalez Orell is even thinking of inviting the British premier to visit Melilla.

USSR Foreign Ministry Official Arrives for Talks

LD210043 Rabat Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 20 Jan 87

[Text] Viktor Posuvalyuk, chief of the North African department of the Near Eastern and North African countries administration of the Soviet Foreign Ministry [title as heard], and the delegation accompanying him this evening visited the tomb of Mohamed V, where he laid a wreath in tribute to the loss to Arabism and Islam represented by the death of His Majesty King Mohamed V, God bless him.

After signing the golden book, the Soviet official and the delegation accompanying him toured the various parts of the mausoleum and were given extensive details by the deputy custodian on the history of the Alawite state and the achievements realized by its kings.

The Soviet official was accompanied during this visit by Malik Fazylov, USSR ambassador in Rabat, and other figures. On his visit to Morocco, the deputy director of the Near East and North Africa department of the Soviet Foreign Ministry said:

[Begin Posuvalyuk recording in Arabic] We came to Morocco to hold political consultations with officials in the Foreign Ministry on various issues of interest to both the Soviet and the Moroccan sides, including international and regional issues, and naturally matters concerning bilateral relations. A large number of these issues were examined today at the Foreign Ministry. We would like to express our deep satisfaction at these consultations and at the exchange of views, which was fruitful to a large extent. I can confirm that the USSR attaches importance to Morocco's status in the international and regional arenas, and I can also stress that the USSR is striving to develop relations with this country. [end recording]

King Receives Saudi Crown Prince 20 Jan

LD202359 Rabat Domestic Service in Arabic 2300 GMT 20 Jan 87

[Text] His Majesty King Hassan II, may God grant him victory, received at the Royal Palace in Rabat this evening His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdallah ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, crown prince of the kingdom of Saudi Arabia, first deputy prime minister, and commander of the Saudi National Guard.

SUDAN

Parties Near Agreement on South Administration

JN181219 Khartoum SUNA in English 0905 GMT 18 Jan 87

[Text] Khartoum, Jan. 18 (SUNA) — The south Sudan political parties have practically agreed on all the major issues related to the controversial question of south Sudan administration.

The *Sudan Times* reported today. [sentence as received] The paper pointed that a major political breakthrough is made by the southern parties to find an agreement which will ensure both setting up of an administration in the South without violating the provisions of the Self-Government Act of 1972, while at the same time ensuring that the fears of those who do not want a centralized south Sudan are met.

The paper asserted that the parties have agreed particularly on everything except the name of the high executive council.

The paper added that an agreement was been reached that there should be set up a provisional autonomous executive of the south as provided for by the 1972 Act. The name, High Executive Council, which seems too objectionable to some, was avoided for the time being, since it was the only single point of disagreement.

The provisional executive organ of the south will have a president and eleven members of the Council, the *Sudan Times* said.

It explained that this was the original provisional high executive set up after 1972 Self-Government Act became law.

The proposed provisional government of the south — supposedly composed of all southern Sudan political parties — will be required to sit as a council and to take all executive decisions in the council to delegate executive powers to the three provinces or the three administrative areas of the south, the paper elaborated. [sentence as received]

It added that this executive body would appoint three governors who will exercise the executive powers in the provinces on its behalf.

The reported agreement between the southern parties comes just one day before the two weeks given to them by the prime minister, Al-Sadiq al-Mahdi, to reach an agreement expires.

The new agreement will be submitted to the prime minister soon, the *Sudan Times* reported.

AL-SIYASAH Criticizes Government Economic Policy

JN181207 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1030 GMT 18 Jan 87

[Text] Khartoum, 18 Jan (SUNA) — In its main editorial today, the independent newspaper *Al-Siyasah* harshly criticized the coalition government's economic policy and described it as unclear and ambiguous, adding that this policy lacks methodology and economic philosphy.

The paper added that the masses are not happy with the economic policy pursued by the state because this policy, as the editorial says, has transformed the masses' lives into an unendurable hell of continuous suffering and has led to complaints by all of the productive trade, industrial, and banking sectors.

CAMEROON

Communique Signed With Hungary on Diplomatic Ties

AB201541 Yaounde Domestic Service in French 1200 GMT 20 Jan 87

[Excerpt] The Presidential Council of the Hungarian People's Republic and the Government of the Republic of Cameroon signed a joint communique this morning relating to establishing diplomatic relations. This is aimed at strengthening their links of friendship as well as consolidating and intensifying their cooperation on the basis of mutual advantage, respect for sovereignty, territorial integrity, equality, noninterference in domestic affairs, and coexistence of states in peace and security. [passage omitted]

CHAD

FANT on 'Mopping-Up' Operation in Zouar Area

AB211359 Ndjamena Domestic Service in French 1348 GMT 21 Jan 87

[Communique issued by the Chadian National Armed Forces High Command 21 January in Ndjamena]

[Text] The Chadian National Armed Forces [FANT] launched a large-scale mopping up offensive in the Zouar region this morning. All enemy command posts were destroyed. At this time, our forces are in full control of the entire Zouar (?plateau) and the surrounding area.

The Libyan soldiers left behind several corpses and materiel. Many soldiers fled to the rocks and are actively being sought by our troops. The final result of this mopping up operation will be brought to you later. Nothing will stop the valiant FANT from recovering all our territories [words indistinct].

Habre 'Not Very Favorable' to OAU Initiative

AB201216 Paris AFP in French 0921 GMT 20 Jan 87

[Text] Ndjamena, 19 Jan (AFP) — The reaction of Chadian President Hissein Habre's entourage is not very favorable to an initiative by OAU Chairman Denis Sassou-Nguesso aimed at trying to convene a "national reconciliation meeting" among Chadians, senior Chadian officials told AFP yesterday.

Hissein Habre sees this initiative as resulting from a "Libyan manipulation" which could "disturb Chad's allies," especially France and the United States, the same sources added. The Chadian authorities hold that the "national reconciliation" is virtually "completed," [words indistinct] outside the many similar meetings which "have all failed" and that the OAU proposal "does not take Libya into account at all."

Mr Sassou-Nguesso, who is also the Congolese president, conveyed his proposal to President Habre through Zairian President Mobutu Sese Seko, who paid a short official visit to Ndjamena last Thursday [15 January]. He had handed his message to President Mobutu in Lome where several African heads of state had been invited early in the week to attend the 20th anniversary of Togolese President General Gnassingbe Eyadema's assumption of power.

The message reportedly makes no mention of either Libya or its occupation of the northern part of Chad, which is as vast as France (552,000 square km), it was affirmed by good sources.

The OAU chairman's initiative is seen by both the Chadian authorities and certain diplomats as a "trick" by Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, leader of the Libyan revolution, aimed at making people forget the occupation and the Libyan setbacks.

"Each time Libya has been driven into a fix or has launched an offensive," it has [words indistinct], Ndjamena authorities who believe there is a "striking coincidence" between the OAU chairman's initiative and "the entire diplomatic agitation" being "conducted" in Africa, according to a Chadian official, by the former Libyan minister of foreign affairs, Al-Turayki, who is "frequently brought out of his golden exile" of the United Nations where he heads the Libyan mission, "to make him use his huge talents to throw sand in people's eyes."

It is recalled in Ndjamena that last August, in response to a similar proposal by the OAU, the Chadian president wrote a letter to President Sassou-Nguesso dated 22 August: "The experience of the past few years shows that the OAU's intervention in Chad's internal affairs, however good the underlying intentions, (...) gives an extra-Chadian dimension to the situation" and "generates and develops external interferences."

In compliance with its Charter, "the OAU can only handle the settlement of conflicts" between member-countries "and not the internal conflicts of these countries," Mr Habre had written further, adding: "An area where the OAU must pursue and step up its efforts is the settlement of the Chadian-Libyan dispute."

Press Release on Libya's 'Criminal' Intentions

AB202030 Ndjamena Domestic Service in French 1845 GMT 20 Jan 87

[Press release issued by the Secretariat of State of the Presidency in Charge of Information and Guidance and read by Moumine Togoi Hamidi, secretary of state for information and guidance — date, place not given]

[Text] The turn taken by present events clearly shows the true nature of the conflict leading Chad and Libya to oppose each other. Honestly speaking and to avoid being ridiculous, no one can deny this conflict, which is marked by fire and blood and during which approximately 200 Libyan prisoners of war and thousands of weapons and ammunition of all kinds have been captured. The diplomatic corps and the international press are here to testify.

Following massive and fierce attacks — always more and more savage — on the positions held by the Chadian National Armed Forces, Al-Qadhdhafi's deadly madness has now turned on

unarmed civilians against whom a systematic genocide has been carried out — a genocide worthy of the most imfamous, wretched man known as Hitler. Tupolev, Sukhoi, and MiG warplanes; helicopters of all kinds; heavy tanks; artillery of all caliber; chemical, napalm, and phosphorous bombs and so on have been used against these civilians. In fact, Al-Qadhdhafi has not spared anything for the extermination of the Chadians in the occupied zones.

Considerable support troops and materials continue to pour into Ouadi Doum, (?Okir) Wayangar, and Gouro today. The number of Libyan aggression troops has doubled and they continue to be reinforced. Thousands of draftees and reservists, including students, civil servants, teachers, and members of the people's committee and mercenaries of all nationalities, are arriving. All in all, it is a colonial undertaking aimed at conquering all Chadian territory.

Now that vivid light has been shed on Al-Qadhdhafi's criminal and archaic intentions with convincing evidence, a misleading, dishonest, and dangerous campaign is taking shape and is spreading within part of the public. It is a campaign that poorly hides the criminal maneuvers aimed at proving that Libya is not guilty and attempts to shade the true nature of the conflict and the means Al-Qadhdhafi uses in this war.

Unexpected voices are being raised left, right, and center, shamelessly shouting that it is Chad's internal problems that have led to the crisis it is facing. Some even speak and gesticulate without being invited to do so, while others go to the extent of making or remaking proposals which became insignificant ages ago, especially as the National Liberation Army and the last group of Commandos [CODOS] have joined the great Chadian family.

These imposters would not be taken seriously if the future of the Chadian people and their territory were not at stake. Nevertheless, it is for this reason that Chad is strongly protesting against these malicious maneuvers fuelled by Libyan oil dollars. It is also for this reason that any attempt to join in these criminal maneuvers orchestrated by Tripoli is bound to fail. Chad despises the noisy manuevers of Al-Qadhdhafi's messengers across Africa as well as the cowardly and shameful statements of his spokesmen.

Ndjamena Views 'Silence' on Libyan 'Genocide'

AB210810 Ndjamena Domestic Service in French 0530 GMT 21 Jan 87

[Station commentary]

[Text] Grotesque maneuvers are currently being carried out in favor of Al-Qadhdhafi. It is often said that ridicule never hurts, but one must observe that the governments of states which claim to be (?credible) have allowed themselves to be lured into a gross trap.

Libyan troops are in Chad and are massacring the Chadian population. But they say nothing about this. On the contrary, these governments relay Tripoli's propaganda and amplify its disinformation campaign. This is nothing more than cowardly complicity. Let everyone — individuals or spokesmen for states or organizations — face up to reality. Chad will never be [words indistinct]. Let us be serious! How can one claim to be credible when one refuses to face up to reality?

It is shameful to see that Chad, an independent state, is under Libyan occupation while the so-called African statesmen blindfold themselves. Peaceful Chadian citizens are killed in huge numbers like beasts by the Libyan occupation troops; but these very statesmen remain silent. Alas, they are afraid of Al-Qadhdhafi. But where, then, is the legendary courage people on the continent have been boastful of? That is the question.

Noisy and unrealistic statements aimed, in fact, at confirming the Libyan military presence in Chad — this is mere political (?miscalculation) — will be met with categorical rejection by the Chadian people who [words indistinct]. First pull out the log from your own eye before removing the straw from your neighbor's eye. One thing is certain: the cowardice that characterizes cer-tain countries is regarded as pitiful by the Chadians who have proved what stuff they are made of on the battlefield. They demonstrated this to the Libyan invaders. They also have shown that there is no room for a possible compromise with regard to the defense of their territorial integrity. Furthermore, Chad will accept no external interference in its internal affairs.

All the untimely agitation noticed here and there should deceive no one. Al-Qadhdhafi has distributed oil dollars. There must be silence over his genocide in Chad: The price of the compromise must be as high as the price of cowardice. United, the Chadian people will be able, however, to foil Al-Qadhdhafi's plots and his followers.

ZAIRE

Trade, Economic Agreement Signed With Hungary

AB161250 Kinshasa AZAP in French 0752 GMT 16 Jan 87

[Text] Kinshasa, 15 Jan (AZAP) — The Republic of Zaire and the Hungarian People's Republic signed a trade and economic cooperation agreement at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation on Thursday under which the two countries are to promote and intensify bilateral trade relations.

Citizen Kabala Kiseke-Seka, secretary of state for foreign affairs, representing the Executive Council, and Dr Gabor Nagy, Hungarian deputy minister of foreign affairs, representing the government of the Hungarian People's Republic, who signed the document, agreed that the A and B lists of this agreement, comprising the importation of goods between the two countries, have been prepared in accordance with rights and obligations in force in both countries, resulting from their participation in GATT. The lists also are in conformity with contracts concluded by Zairian and Hungarian companies as separate and independent entities.

Each contracting side, according to that agreement, will encourage the other party's participation in exhibitions and trade fairs organized on its territory, and will facilitate the visit of trade and

industry experts from the other country with the aim of exchanging experiences, especially by waiving duties on imports of items contracted during trade fairs.

Speaking on the occasion, Citizen Kabala pointed out that the agreement constitutes a useful instrument placed at the dispcsal of businessmen of both countries, and expressed his satisfaction with the deliberations that led to the signing of the agreement in Kinshasa.

On his part, Dr Nagy said he was very happy to have signed the agreement which, he said, would enable both countries to further strengthen their cooperation.

Three Hungarian and six Zairian experts participated in the deliberations that led to the signing of the agreement under the joint supervision of their deputy ministers of foreign affairs.

Senegalese Parliamentary Delegation Ends Visit
AB191156 Kinshasa AZAP in French 0740 GMT 19 Jan 87

[Text] Kinshasa, 19 Jan (AZAP) — Frequent contacts between people, it is said, strengthen friendship and understanding between them. This is also true for two communities or two peoples.

Senegal and Zaire abide by this law by cultivating, for many years now, relations that have led to deeper mutual understanding. Within the framework of strengthening bilateral relations between the two countries, a Senegalese parliamentary delegation ended its current visit to Zaire. This was in return for a visit a Zairian parliamentary delegation paid to the country of the poet of the Negritude concept [former Senegalese President Leopold Sedar Senghor].

Our guests toured the vast national territory for 10 days, getting acquaintained in depth with the realities of Zaire, realities which, to some extent, are not different from those of Senegal. This similarity shows that the two countries, facing the same difficult problems of underdevelopment, are bound to exchange their experiences to overcome the effects of the economic crisis which continues to plague them.

The visit by the Senegalese parliamentary delegation has enabled the two parliaments to review their bonds of cooperation and to exchange views on the situation prevailing on the African Continent.

It is worth noting that on the apartheid issue, the destabilization maneuvers perpetrated in southern Africa by the Boer regime and its stubbornness in trying to maintain its power in Namibia, in defiance of the right of peoples to self-determination, and the pertinent UN resolutions, the Senegalese and Zairian parliamentarians expressed their similarity of views.

This similarity of views does not come as a surprise for, in international fora in general and African in particular, the two countries share the same views and adopt the same attitude on various stands.

This similarity of views is shown in the final communique issued at the conclusion of the Senegalese parliamentarians' visit to Zaire. The communique also expressed the similarity of views shared by Presidents Mobutu Sese Seko and Abdou Diouf.

This is proof that despite the distance between the two countries, the peoples of Zaire and Senegal are very close to each other and strive to reach the same goal: that of building their respective countries to make them strong and prosperous for the advent of an Africa able to assume its destiny.

BURKINA FASO

PRC Ambassador Received by Sankara 16 Jan

AB171018 Ouagadougou Domestic Service in French 1900 GMT 16 Jan 87

[Excerpts] Comrade Captain Thomas Sankara, comrade chairman of the CNR and president of Burkina Faso, received Jiang Xiang, PRC ambassador to our country, this morning. At the end of the audience, he told us through Jose Daniel Bationo the issues discussed at the audience and later told us of his impressions of the situation in his country following the student unrest in the PRC.

[Begin recording] [Jiang] My discussions with the president centered on an examination of bilateral cooperation. Thanks to the joint efforts of our two parties and the cooperation between our two countries [words indistinct] very good conditions. This shows the comrade president has great interest in, and attaches special importance to, strengthening the bonds of friendship and cooperation between our two countries.

[Bationo] What is your impression of the situation in your country following the student unrest?

[Jiang] In effect, there were student demonstrations in the PRC, but the number of participants was minimal. We do not consider it very serious, but it was an important event because it draws our attention to the need to make greater efforts at ideological education. The students expressed their concern for democracy and freedom, and this is understandable. But there are some bad people who have been exploiting this student sentiment and causing trouble in the society. We cannot tolerate that. [passage omitted]

[Bationo] How do you view the handling of this issue by the international press?

[Jiang] I think the international press, especially the Western press, is not well informed about what is happening in the PRC: It has not fully appreciated what is happening in the PRC.

[Bationo] There has just been a change in the party. How do you view this change?

[Jiang] I cannot say anything concerning this issue; I have not yet been informed. [end recording]

GHANA

Rawlings Views Chadian, African Problems

AB201535 Accra PEOPLE'S DAILY GRAPHIC in English 14 Jan 87 p 4,5

[Text] The leader of the revolution, Flt.-Lt. Jerry John Rawlings has stated that the problem of Chad has been compounded by the blatant external interference from certain Western countries. Such interference, Chairman Rawlings stressed, has "effectively undermined the Lagos Accord by which the Government of National Unity (GUNT), comprising about 13 warring factions was established in 1979".

Flt.-Lt. Jerry John Rawlings expressed these views in an interview with the editorial director of the *Prisma* magazine.

He also described as senseless, the slaughter of Chadians which continues unabated.

Furthermore, Chairman Rawlings said "it has consistently been Ghana's view that, given the fragmentation of the Chadian society, the only solution that can lead to peace is the setting up of a government in which all political forces can find expression." Such a government, the leader of the revolution emphasised, will reduce the risks of external interference and give Chadians the opportunity to rebuild their country.

Answering questions about some of the root causes of Africa's economic problems, Chairman Rawlings noted that trade relations between Third World countries and the industrialised nations are conducted on such unequal terms that it invariably amounts to exploitation of the weak by the strong.

What is more disheartening, Flt.-Lt. Rawlings pointed out, was that, these same industralised countries unjustifiably continue to resist the only legitimate steps that can lead to fairness and even obviate the need for aid.

If Africans are to live in true dignity, then the people must extricate themselves from those attitudes of mind and alien values which continue to undermine their confidence as a people, he stressed.

For true independence, the leader of the revolution reiterated the need to build self-sustaining economies, with self-sufficiency in the production of the basic food needs.

Soviet Ambassador on Disarmament, Reykjavik

AB171859 Accra Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 17 Jan 87

[Text] The Soviet ambassador to Ghana, Mr V. Semenov, has said his country still stands for peace and the eradication of nuclear disarmament despite the breakdown of the Reykjavik summit.

Speaking at a news conference in Accra, Mr Semenov said the Soviet Union will continue to pursue policies to limit and stop the arms race. He said even though 1986 was declared by the United Nations as an international year of peace, not all member-states sought an end to the arms buildup indeed.

Mr Semenov said now that the international year of peace belongs to history, it should be the duty of every state to submit an account to the world community on what it did to ensure that the year of peace lived up to its name. Mr Semenov stressed the

Soviet Union's preparedness to cooperate in every way with all states advocating stronger international peace and security.

LIBERIA

Doe Reviews Shultz Visit at News Conference

AB201125 Monrovia Radio ELWA in English
2000 GMT 19 Jan 87

[Text] Five days following the visit to Liberia of U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz, President Samuel Kanyon Doe has given a press conference to officially inform the Liberian people about his discussions with the U.S. secretary of state. President Doe, who gave his press conference at the Executive Mansion in Monrovia today, also touched on a wide range of other issues of national concern.

[Begin Doe recording] Rightly or wrongly, as president, I do take the responsibility for both the success and failures of our nation. Consequently, I should make it my business to inform the Liberian people from time to time on developments in our country. It is for this reason that I have invited you here today. You will recall that on January 14, we received in audience the secretary of state of the United States of America, Mr George Shultz. During our discussion, which touched upon a wide range of issues, we were able to understand the views of the U.S. Administration, on various issues affecting our bilateral relations.

While expressing our appreciation to the U.S. Government for the assistance given Liberia, we sought to appraise the Reagan administration, through Secretary Shultz, of the contribution which we thought that government could make toward the economic recovery of our country, and entertained the hope that we could continue to count on its support. During my discussions with the secretary of state, I informed him that as a means of contributing toward the recovery program of Liberia, the U.S. Government should consider paying for some of the facilities being utilized so as to help boost our revenue and recovery efforts. An appeal was also made to the U.S. Government to look into the possibility of liquidating our financial obligations toward the International Monetary Fund, as well as our outstanding indebtedness to that government for the construction of the Free Port of Monrovia some 40 years ago.

We also used the occasion to brief Secretary Shultz about the Green Revolution program launched by government and solicited his government's support for this national endeavor, which, we indicated, will help eliminate the economic difficulties the country was experiencing in the long run.

Distinguished gentlemen of the press, I wish to use this opportunity to extend an open invitation [words indistinct] of campaign to assist the government and people achieve the goals of the Green Revolution. While we embark upon these efforts, and in spite of our appeals to our fellow politicians for all to work together and build the nation, it is of concern to us that some are still advocating the halt of assistance to the country. Nevertheless, with God on or side and our determination to work for the recovery of the country, and with the (?fortitude) of the Liberian people, we shall succeed. [end recording]

During the press conference today, President Doe also entertained questions from members of the press. He was first asked whether he presented a special package to Mr Shultz requesting the U.S. Government for more assistance to Liberia.

[Begin recording] [Doe] We did not present any document to — let us say Mr Shultz — or to other officials of the U.S. Government. But he was officially informed of the program and that we would wish to get any assistance in support of this program. And the secretary promised that in conjunction with the Liberian Government, shortly they will be sending a high-powered economic recovery team to work with the Government of Liberia so that together we can promulgate a working document that will help to alleviate some of the difficulties that we are experiencing now.

[Unidentified reporter] [Passage indistinct]

[Doe] Well, the talks between the government and the opposition political parties are in progress and we hope that the talks will continue. And the goodwill ambassadors are all working very hard with the government representatives from the National Democratic Party [NDPL] so that we all can reach a compromise. And as I said, from the very inception of the government on 29 October when I was declared winner of the elections, I appealed to all politicians to come and work hard to found a government of national unity, which they refused. Nevertheless, because of our interest in this country and people, we are doing everything possible to make sure that we continue the discussions on the reconciliation.

[Reporter] [words indistinct] What are some of those facilities which you mentioned that you will let the U.S. Government pay some revenue for so as to generate revenue for the Liberian Government? [passage indistinct] Did you make specific mention of which part of the economy he would like Liberia to make some improvement in?

[Doe] Well, as I said, there was no specific mention of anything that we should do in terms of getting along with their team, and so we both decided that they should rather send their team. I hope the team will be headed by AID director Mr McPherson. And so when they come to us, I think we will be able to put our team together so that we will know exactly what we will work out.

And as you know, in the past and present, the program, let us say for IMF, [words indistinct] salaries, dismissed some officials of government, [words indistinct] among our public corporations and the private sector, so as to lend assistance. And so I decided that in order for us to do whatever they intended us to do in order to put our economy into order, we too must come up with whatever solutions that will be acceptable to the people of this country, and not only to the State Department or to the Reagan administration.

[Name indistinct] Mr President you did not answer the first part of the question: What are those facilities you want the U.S. Government to pay for?

[Doe] Fine, but you did not ask the specific question. Since you are asking now I will address myself to it. Well, we have a number of facilities in this country owned by the Americans. If you do not know, if you want me to tell you, I will tell you. We have the Omega Tower, which helps to monitor all the ships around the world: in the Middle East, in the Mediterranean; we have what we call the — what do you call it — VOA [words indistinct] in Careysburg, and we have another transmitter site at Brewerville, and of course we have other facilities that for security reasons I do not want to name. And so there are many more that could be counted if they agree for us to go into details.

[Name indistinct, *Washington Post*] [passage indistinct] What has your government proposed to do to control this corruption? [passage indistinct]

[Doe] First of all, let me tell you that the government of this country is not responsible for the management of certain (?sectors) of the economy. Business people are responsible for the control of their own money that they make from their products. The government is in no way connected with that. As for the IMF proposal, we have been dealing with the IMF since 1982. And as I said, the IMF team is here. On your question on whether we should continue to use the American dollar as the legal tender for our country, I believe that it is not our intention at this moment. It is not the intention of government at this moment to (?stem) away from the U.S. dollar and I want to tell you that every one cent that has been brought into this country is being brought here by the sweat of the Liberian Government and I want you to know that every cent that the Government of the United States of America gives this country, has gone back to the American Government to pay their own local banks. Not a cent has been brought in (?for) the country. And remember every cent that is brought from America, we pay for it and we have every right to spend it the way we want to spend it because it is our own money. It is not the loan or the aid that the American Government gives us.

[Name indistinct] Some time ago in one of your policy statements, you made mention about the economic problems whereby you called (?on the officials) to privatize some of the public corporations. I want to know today, sir, what has happened to these corporations?

[Doe] Yes, we are still discussing with the potential investors. To, you know, privatize a corporation is not an easy task. Some of them come and they say: Mr President, we want to do so and so. [passage indistinct] And so we are still in the process of finding good investors who will be good financially to the people and to the government.

[Reporter] Mr President, my question has to do with the Green Revolution. We noticed in the past there has been a lot of slogans, especially in 1980. [passage indistinct] I want to know exactly what is the difference between your Green Revolution launched and the slogans of the past.

[Doe] [passage indistinct] We are trying our best to make sure that we are not joking with the Green Revolution. [passage indistinct] As I am standing here I have cleared almost 1,250 acres this year and people are still working on my farm. I cleared 125 acres last year. From that 125 acres, I was able to get something like 45,000 bags of rice. So if I clear 1,500 acres this year you calculate and tell me. If you can get 45,000 bags of rice from 125 acres, compare it to 1,500 and you will know what will be my output next year. So we are not joking about the Green Revolution.

[Reporter] Mr President, when Shultz came to Africa, the rest of the countries he visited he almost [words indistinct]. When he came to Liberia, he only spent a couple of hours here. Do you think he really took the Liberian people for granted and this nation? Then the second question is that we (?tried) to get to you but we (?could not).

[Doe] Let me answer this question. [words indistinct] The American people feel that this is their country. So whether they come here to stay 2 hours, they know we have that relation. But, myself I told the secretary of state. [as heard] And perhaps he was not actually planning [word indistinct] to sleep in our country. And so, maybe next time, he will come to sleep here. You know, we look like old girl friends to the American people. [passage indistinct] We have been friendly with the Americans for 147 years. So we will not turn our back on them if they are looking for new friends. But we will continue to talk to them so that our concerns for development in this country will be felt in Washington. [end recording]

Protestors Opposed to Shultz Visit Released

AB162028 Paris AFP in English 1618 GMT 16 Jan 87

[Text] Monrovia, Jan 16 (AFP) — Four persons detained here Wednesday [14 January] for protesting against the visit by George Shultz, the U.S. secretary of state, have been released, the independence *Daily Observer* newspaper reported Friday.

The four were among a small group of opposition politicians and university students who protested with placards against the visit by Mr. Shultz and against U.S support for the government of President Samuel Doe.

The paper, quoting police sources said the accused were charged with "anti-government demonstration and disorderly conduct" before being freed.

Government Protests BBC Report on Debt Payment

AB201257 Monrovia Domestic Service in English 0700 GMT 20 Jan 87

[Text] The Government of Liberia has expressed dismay over a recent news report on the BBC's Focus on Africa program indicating that it was not officially known whether Liberia has made payment against its 25 percent arrears owed the Mano River Union. On 15 January, BBC reported that it was not officially known whether Liberia has made payment towards the

25 percent arrears it owed the Union, and that only Guinea had completed payment of the 25 percent arrears. In a letter to the Union's secretary general, Dr Augustine Caine, on 16 January, the acting finance minister, (Milliard Ward), requested the Union's Secretariat to make the necessary corrections to Focus on Africa, but nothing has since been done. Minister (Ward) said Liberia took the first initiative by paying $175,000 of its 25 percent arrears to the Union in November last year, and keeping the mandate of the Council of Ministers. She said the secretary general was also informed on 16 Janaury that the Liberian Government had made the final payment of $55,000 towards the 25 percent arrears as mandated by the Council in Conakry recently.

NIGER

PRC Commerce Minister Arrives for Visit 15 Jan

AB161056 Niamey Domestic Service in French
0600 GMT 16 Jan 87

[Text] PRC Commerce Minister Liu Yi arrived in Niamey last night [15 January] on a 4-day official visit. In addition to a series of courtesy calls to be paid this morning, the Chinese minister will hold a working session with a Niger delegation.

Received by Kountche

AB191743 Niamey Domestic Service in French
1200 GMT 19 Jan 87

[Text] Major General Seyni Kountche, head of state and chairman of the Supreme Military Council, today granted audience to three different personalities, including, PRC Commerce Minister Liu Yi. After the audience the visiting PRC minister disclosed to the press the topics of his discussion with President Seyni Kountche.

[Begin Liu recording in Mandarin fading into French translation] We are very happy to have been received by President Kountche to whom we conveyed the cordial greetings and best wishes of the PRC president and prime minister. President Kountche also charged us with conveying the Niger people's very friendly greetings to the PRC people and government. During our discussions, we examined our bilateral relations of friendship and cooperation as well as ways and means to further strengthen them. I told the president that the discussions I held with the minister of trade were very fruitful. I hope that this visit will help create better understanding between our two peoples and strengthen our friendship. [end recording]

Seyni Kountche Promoted to Major General

AB161345 Niamey Domestic Service in French
1200 GMT 16 Jan 87

[Text] By decree dated 16 January 1987, adopted at the Council of Ministers' meeting, the government has decided, on the proposal of National Armed Forces' officers, to promote his excellency the chairman of the Supreme Military Council and head of state [Brigadier General Seyni Kountche] to the rank of major general with effect as of 1 January 1987.

NIGERIA

Education Minister, Hungarian Ambassador on Ties

AB170949 Lagos International Service in English
0830 GMT 17 Jan 87

[Text] The federal technical colleges in the country are to be used in reviving indigenous technical skills lost as a result of rural-urban migration. The minister of education, Prof Jibril Aminu, stated this in Lagos while exchanging views with the Hungarian ambassador to Nigeria, Jozsef Bende. Professor Aminu said Nigeria would welcome proposals covering a wider range of technological developments. The Hungarian envoy told the minister that over 700 Nigerians had undertaken technological courses in Hungary under scholarships awarded by his country.

Earlier, in a separate courtesy call, the Algerian ambassador to Nigeria, Mihoub Mihoubi, called for cooperation in technological development with his country.

Relief Goods Shipped to Angola, Mozambique

AB210915 Lagos International Service in English
0830 GMT 21 Jan 87

[Text] Forty-one containers of Nigeria's relief materials have left Lagos for Angola and Mozambique. The materials sent to the two Frontline States were blankets, mattresses, shoes, sugar, and kitchen wares. Reports said a ship owned by the Nigerian National Shipping Line handled 26 of the containers while the Governmental Coastal Agency, GCA, arranged the shipment of the remaining 15 containers.

SENEGAL

Diplomatic Relations Established With Bolivia

AB162144 Dakar Domestic Service in French
2000 GMT 16 Jan 87

[Text] In their desire to promote a spirit of mutual understanding and to reinforce the friendly relations of cooperation between the two countries on the basis of mutual respect for their sovereignty in conformity with the principles of the UN Charter, the governments of Bolivia and Senegal have decided to establish, diplomatic relations at the ambassadorial level as of today.

TOGO

Mobutu Departs; Eyadema Receives Chad, PRC Envoys

AB160820 Lome Domestic Service in French
1230 GMT 15 Jan 87

[Excerpts] One by one, our invited guests to the Liberation Day anniversary celebrations have been leaving our country. In addi-

tion to several other delegations, three heads of state flew home today from Lome Tokoin Airport. They are Presidents Mobutu Sese Seko of Zaire, Dawda Jawara of Gambia, and Paul Biya of Cameroon. They followed the footsteps of their brothers Mohamed Abdelaziz of the SDAR; Mathieu Kerekou of Benin; Aristides Pereira of Cape Verde Islands; Bernardo Vieira of Guinea-Bissau; and Mr Bongo of Gabon, who left yesterday. [passage omitted]

After seeing off Presidents Mobutu, Jawara, and Paul Biya at the airport, and after returning to his private suite at the 2 Fevrier Hotel, General Gnassingbe Eyadema, RPT founding chairman and president, granted three audiences to foreign dignitaries who came to participate in the festivities marking the 20th anniversary of our national liberation. At 1040, Gen Eyadema received the Chadian representative, Minister of Planning Soumaila Mahamat, accompanied by His Excellency Yusuf Nboudou Mbani, Chad's ambassador to Togo. Mr Mahamat was bearer of a written message from President Hissein Habre to his brother and friend, Gen Eyadema. After the audience, the Chadian minister stated that Togo has done much good in the comity of nations and that this constitutes a good example to be emulated by various countries of the world.

[Begin recording] [Mahamat] I had the honor of being received by Gen Gnassingbe Eyadema, RPT founding chairman, to whom I delivered a message from his brother, President Hissein Habre, concerning participation in the celebration of the 20th anniversary of Togo's national liberation, at which celebration I had the honor of representing President Hissein Habre and of expressing President Habre's personal desire to participate in this important celebration. He is unable to do so because of the serious situation in northern Chad where the Chadian National Armed Forces are faced with an unprecedented aggression from the Libyan aggressor army. I took this opportunity to convey to President Eyadema and the Togolese people the fraternal greetings of the Chadian president and the Chadian people.

[Unidentified reporter] Mr Minister, you just alluded to the situation prevailing in northern Chad. Would you please brief us on this situation?

[Mahamat] At this very moment, as I speak, the situation in northern Chad is characterized by an unprecedented large-scale aggression from the Libyan invasion army, aimed at totally annihilating the Chadian people and at definitively occupying northern Chad. But Al-Qadhdhafi launched this immense offensive without taking into account the capacity of Chadians and their determination to withstand Al-Qadhdhafi's Libya even if it is armed [words indistinct].

The specific information I can give you now concerns the latest battle which took place in northern Chad a little over 48 hours ago. The Libyan Army deployed a sizeable force — both material and men — aimed at occupying the Tibesti region. But its forces were chased out of the zone and completely destroyed. And for your information [passage indistinct]. [passage omitted] [end recording]

The 13 January Man [appellation for President Eyadema] granted his second audience to Jean-Christophe Mitterrand, the French president's special adviser on African and Malagasy affairs. Mr Mitterrand was bearer of a message from French President Francois Mitterrand to Gen Eyadema.

During the third audience, the 13 January Man received a four-man PRC delegation headed by Commerce Minister Liu Yi. He stated that he delivered to President Eyadema a message from his country's leader.

[Begin Liu recording in Mandarin followed by sentence by sentence French translation] I have just been received by President Eyadema. I delivered to him the greetings of President Li Xiannian and Premier Zhao Ziyang. I also conveyed to him their congratulations for the celebration of the 20th anniversary of national liberation and also for the great success achieved by the Togolese people under the clearsighted direction of President Eyadema for 20 years. We are very happy about the success you have achieved. We also discussed the success of the upright foreign policy of the Togolese Government as well as the victories scored by the Togolese Government thanks to this foreign policy. [passage omitted] [end recording]

MOZAMBIQUE

Nonparticipation in Machel Inquiry Explained

MB201822 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 1743 GMT 20 Jan 87

[Text] Here is an item just in: The Political Bureau of the Frelimo Party Central Committee met on 20 January 1987 to examine the factual report on the crash of the presidential plane on 19 October 1986 and to make a decision on South Africa's invitation for the People's Republic of Mozambique, as a directly interested party, to take part in the South African commission of inquiry designated by that country's transport minister. The Political Bureau of the Frelimo Party Central Committee, having examined the factual report, has decided:

1. To hail the work carried out by the National Commission of Inquiry and its group of technicians and give them a mandate to continue with their work.

2. With a desire for the whole truth, and nothing but the truth, the Political Bureau of the Frelimo Party Central Committee has instructed the National Commission of Inquiry to propose to the South African side that the work by the International Commission of Inquiry comprising the People's Republic of Mozambique, the USSR, and the Republic of South Africa should continue until the completion of the investigation on the facts.

3. For this reason, the Political Bureau of the Frelimo Party Central Committee has instructed the Mozambican side not to take part in the proceedings of the South African commission whose working sessions were due to begin on 20 January 1987.

The struggle continues.

Maputo, 20 January 1987

Dos Santos Speaks at People's Assembly Closing

MB201351 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 1815 GMT 19 Jan 87

[Speech by Marcelino dos Santos, chairman of the People's Assembly, at the closing session of the People's Assembly in Maputo on 19 January — recorded]

[Excerpts] The first session of the second legislature of the People's Assembly ended today. There were 7 days of arduous work, 7 days of study, and debates in which we all participated. The deputies who arrived from communal villages, state farms, factories, schools, hospitals, public services, and the war front have brought the most pressing needs of our people to this Assembly's attention. In this session we heard the voices of the soldiers, workers, peasants, and other sectors of our society. All these voices were united by a common desire to make our country overcome famine, nakedness, and misery caused by underdevelopment and war.

During the past 7 days we did not find all the answers, but we found ways to take the first steps to achieve those objectives. Our work was marked by a deep study of the current situation in our country, by the active participation of all people here in the debates, by the defense of the workers and peasants interests, and by the clarity of the options we chose. We have conscientiously fulfilled our duty in this Assembly, and we want to show those who elected us the intense activity highlighted in the decisions adopted in this session.

In our first working day we were honored by the presence of the Frelimo Party chairman and president of the People's Republic of Mozambique, Comrade Joaquim Alberto Chissano, who with his intelligence and serenity conveyed his faith to every one of us. His presence was a stimulus to us, and the guidelines he set out are a beacon in our work. All of us, deputies and invited guests to this first session of the People's Assembly, warmly greet the supreme leader of our nation and wish him a long life so that he may lead us to new and greater victories. [applause] [passage omitted]

Deputies and invited guests: During the first session of the second legislature of the People's Assembly we presented the report from the national elections committee. We approved a resolution on the second general elections by legalizing the electoral process and declaring valid all the elected people's assemblies. We also extended the mandate of the national elections committee and of the provincial election committee, in the localities, administrative posts, and districts where it was not possible to hold elections, until we complete the electoral process under the terms of Regulation No 2 of Article 36 of the electoral law and following other regulations of the same law. According to the terms of the Constitution of the People's Republic of Mozambique, we elected the chairman of the People's Assembly and his Standing Commission. We analyzed the report of the national commission of enquiry into the air crash in which his excellency, chairman of the Frelimo Party and president of the People's Republic of Mozambique, Marshal Samora Moises Machel, and several party and government cadres, died. We discussed the draft on economic rehabilitation of the country and within this framework we approved the law on health services and the law on taxes. We approved the law on national private investments. We approved the law on the state central plan for 1987. We approved the state budget for 1987. We approved the plan of activities of the People's Assembly until the beginning of its second session.

Deputies and invited guests: The works of this first session were dominated by the debate either in a plenum or from study groups of the program for the country's economic rehabilitation, whose guidelines were presented by the deputy and prime minister of the People's Republic of Mozambique, Dr Mario da Graca Machungo. [passage omitted]

Deputies and invited guests: The war imposed upon us affects every sector of our society. All of us from Rovuma to Maputo, directly or indirectly, feel the disastrous effects of the war. We feel these effects as ordinary citizens when coal is not exported. We suffer when corn is not transported, and when cotton does not reach the factories. We feel the effects when we do not have medicine in the pharmacies, and when the shops have neither materials nor clothes to buy. We all feel the effects of the war but not all of us have deeply lived the war.

The struggle for the total annihilation of the armed bandits demands the participation of every Mozambican on all war fronts. Our entire society must make an effort. The FPLM is the principal instrument of this struggle. We must carry out the program of economic rehabilitation through a total struggle against the armed bandits. All Mozambicans have a patriotic duty to defend theirindependence and sovereignty and must serve in the Mozambican Armed Forces, FPLM, the people's militias, or the groups of vigilance. Our youth are destined to play an important role. They should always enter the FPLM ranks to swell our military units and at same time strengthen national unity.

Economic rehabilitation and the struggle against the armed bandits are two sides of the same coin. The rehabilitation of the production sector demands the mobilization of all means of defending the motherland. We must raise our combat readiness and equip our defense and security forces with all means for the total fulfillment of their mission. We must rigorously control the ways and means of mobilizing defense and security forces, which must be judiciously applied in order that our soldier in the trenches may efficiently fulfill his mission.

So, deputies and invited guests, as we see the problems facing the country and take into account the naked brutality of this war, the responsibility of the assemblies at all levels has increased. The people's assemblies are a living body constituted by elected deputies among the best and able soldiers, workers, peasants, clerks, and other Mozambican workers. The peoples assemblies are served by all men and women dedicated to the country. The assemblies should mobilize the people for the implementation of decisions adopted in each session. Decisions at all levels are also administered by the assemblies, but the link between government structures and people's assemblies at every level is made in an orderly and disciplined manner, taking into account that both the assemblies and government structures work to implement the ideals of the Frelimo Party, the vanguard leader of the Mozambican society.

Deputies and invited guests: We thus end the first session of the People's Assembly. But this does not mean the end of our work. We now have the delicate task of explaining to the people decisions adopted here. We have the difficult task of being in the vanguard of the implementation of the decisions we have approved in this Assembly. [passage omitted]

The People's Republic of Mozambique is the borderline between freedom and oppression, between equality and racial discrimination, between life and death, between liberated Africa and apartheid. The war comes from South Africa, which is our greatest calamity. We must make fundamental efforts. The internal effort is fundamental and decisive, but the support of the international community is also important in the reestablishment of the national economic equilibrium. In every moment of our short existence as a free and independent state we always counted on the support of the international community, as during the time of the armed struggle for national liberation.

Members of the Standing Committee of the People's Assembly, deputies, invited guests, ladies and gentlemen: During these 7 days we lived happy moments of work, of revolutionary fraternity, days when we studied the problems faced by our people, unforgettable days which will be remembered by every one of us. We will convene again in the second session of the People's Assembly. But then we will return enriched by our past experiences which will help us implement the people's interests in the implementation of measures approved now. This was made possible, deputies and invited guests, due to the diligent work of hundreds of workers who during 20 weeks prepared the material conditions for the success of the works of this first session of the People's Assembly. We would like to acknowledge the session secretariat, jurists, doctors, nurses, first aiders, protocol personnel, journalists, sound technicians, cinema, and television technicians, drivers, cooks, hotel employers, machine operators, security personnel, soldiers, policemen, and traffic personnel. We salute them on behalf of the deputies of the People's Assembly, and we say many thanks for the work done which has facilitated our success. [applause]

Nigeria Said Sending 5,000 Troops To Fight MNR

MB201453 Johannesburg Domestic Service in Afrikaans 1400 GMT 20 Jan 87

[Text]Our correspondent in Lisbon reports that Nigeria will send 5,000 soldiers to Mozambique to help the Frelimo government in its struggle against Renamo. President Joaquim Chissano requested Nigerian help last month to fight the rebel movement. According to our correspondent, this move is one of the proofs that the Mozambican Government is losing control of the situation in the coutnry.

Presidential Appointees Take Oaths of Office

MB202018 Maputo in English to Southern Africa 1800 GMT 20 Jan 87

[Text] Seven new ministers appointed by President Joaquim Chissano last week today took their oaths of office in a ceremony at the presidential palace in Maputo. Those sworn in are Transport and Communication Minister Lieutenant General Armando Guebuza; Security Minister Major General Mariano Matsinhe; Foreign Minister Pascoal Mocumbi; Health Minister Fernando Vaz; Minister of Culture Luis Bernado Honwana; Minister in the Presidency Feliciano Gundana; and Labor Minister Aguiar Mazula.

New Deputy Health Minister Jose Igrejas Campos also took the oath of office, as did the new governors of Tete and Niassa provinces, (?Gabriel Muthemba) and Julio N'Chola. Maria dos Anjos Rosario was sworn in as secretary of state for technical and vocational education. She was appointed by a presidential decree of 29 August last year signed by President Samora Machel. However, President Samora died before he was able to formalize this appointment.

At the end of the ceremony, President Chissano said that the new government members had been chosen because they have great experience in serving the people. The presidency is confident that they would be able to continue the work of their predecessors with success and would be able to fight for the increase in quality, production, and productivity required to implement the economic

recovery program approved by the Mozambican parliament, the People's Assembly.

Soviet Ambassador Pledges Continued Aid

MB201203 Maputo in English to Southern Africa 1100 GMT 20 Jan 87

[Text] The Soviet Union will continue giving assistance to Mozambique as a friendly country and without any conditions attached. Soviet Ambassador to Mozambique Nikolay Dybenko told a press conference in Maputo yesterday that when his country assists Mozambique, it does so without any conditions or ultimatums.

Mr Dybenko said the Soviet Union will always give aid to Mozambique as a friendly country, and without placing economic or political conditions. He said Mozambique would get a lot more Soviet aid if there was success of the Soviet Union's proposal on a nuclear arms' reduction. The money spent on building nuclear arsenals would then be channelled into aid for underdeveloped countries, according to the Soviet Union. Mr Dybenko also said international arms' reduction would reduce the Pretoria regime's warlike attitude.

SOUTH AFRICA

Further Reports on Machel Crash Inquiry

Flight Crew 'Was Lost'

MB201415 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1351 GMT 20 Jan 87

[Text] Johannesburg Jan 20 SAPA — Three seconds before the Tupolev jet carrying Mozambique President Samora Machel crashed the pilot's voice was recorded as saying "there is nowhere to go," the commission of inquiry into the accident was told in the Rand Supreme Court today.

Mr Cedric Puckrin, SC [Senior Counsel], counsel for the commission, said there was no question of sabotage or explosions having brought down the aircraft. He said certain facts obtained from the aircraft's flight recorders, its instruments, air traffic control tapes and accounts of the survivors were self-evident and not open to argument. The first was that there was no question of sabotage or explosions. The others were:

— The aircraft descended without stop to 3000 ft;

— Had the crew levelled off when the ground proximity warning system sounded, the disaster would have been averted;

— At no stage did any members of the crew have visual contact with Maputo;

— During the last few minutes of the flight, the air crew was lost;

— During the last few minutes, the aircraft was not following the instrument landing system, the distance measuring equipment, or the automatic direction finder signal, because the crew made repeated comments that the aids were not working;

— At the time of the accident, there was insufficient fuel to divert to Beira, the only alternative airfield;

— There was a clear misunderstanding between the aircrew and the flights information service at Maputo airport;

— There was no failure of any of the aircraft's systems, and it continued flying until it collided with the ground;

— The crew was licensed to fly the aircraft and was not debilitated in any way;

The joint factual report on the accident investigation was read to the commission by Mr Renier van Zyl, director of aviation safety for the Directorate of Civil Aviation.

In an annexure to the report, Soviet representatives commented that the report did not contain any analysis or conclusions. They said this should properly have been entered into and included in the report.

Reading from the report Mr Van Zyl said his department was informed of the accident on the morning of October 20 when an investigative team was sent to the scene. However, the team was not able to begin the investigation that day "due to decisions and actions taken in an emotionally charged atmosphere."

The crash scene was guarded by the South African Police.

Mr Van Zyl said South Africa approached the National Transport Safety Board in the United States and the Accident Investigation Branch in Britain for assistance, but these bodies were reluctant to get involved. An approach was then made to the International Civil Aviation Organisation but it expressed satisfaction with the handling of the investigation and the involvement of Mozambique and the Soviet Union. Mr Van Zyl said that at each stage of the investigation the three countries signed written agreements concerning procedure to be followed.

There was silence when Mr Van Zyl gave an account of the flight's last few minutes.

Mozambique, USSR Do Not Attend

MB201749 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1747 GMT 20 Jan 87

[Text] Johannesburg, Jan 20 SAPA — "What runway? What are you talking about? No, there's nothing. Neither runway nor city," the pilot of President Samora Machel's plane said to the Maputo flight radio operator a minute before the aircraft crashed at Komatipoort in South African territory. At about 7pm on October 19, Maputo advisory flight information service cleared the plane for landing and instructed the crew to "report at 3000 feet or runway lights in sight." The co-pilot, piloting the plane, executed a right turn and during the descent the reserve fuel warning light illuminated. "There is no Maputo," the pilot informed the crew. The plane continued descending.

At 7:21pm the afis requested the pilot to confirm that the (runway) lights were out of service. The crew replied that the lights were not in sight. The last words recorded by the cockpit voice recorder were the pilot and navigator saying there were "no instrument landing service, no nondirectional beacons and nowhere to go."

The 53-year-old Marxist leader, 17 Frelimo officials and 16 others perished in the tragic accident.

There was a clear misunderstanding between the Maputo flight traffic controllers and the flight crew, counsel Mr Cedric Puckrin SC [Senior Counsel], addressing the inquiry said this morning. "There is no question of sabotage," he said. There was no technical failure and the plane continued to fly until the collision in the hilly terrain 200m inside the South African border, he said.

At the opening of the inquiry, Mr Puckrin said despite being repeatedly informed that the board was sitting this morning, Mozambican and Soviet delegates were not represented. South Africa, the USSR and Mozambique were signatories to the aviation convention signed in Chicago in 1944 which makes provision for the inquiry to be held in the country where the accident occurred. In terms of the convention the state of manufacture and registry of the plane (USSR and Mozambique respectively) were entitled to representation.

The factual report by South African and international experts, which formed the basis of the inquiry this morning, was also agreed to by the USSR but subject to two additions, Mr Renier Willem van Zyl, director of aviation with the South African Department of Transport, who investigated the accident, told the board. He said the Soviet delegation, acting in terms of Annexure 13 of the Chicago convention, considered that the analyses and conclusions "should be developed and added to ... the factual report." "According to the Annexure 13 paragraph 6.1 the analyses and conclusions must be elaborated and agreed to on a trilateral basis involving the states participating in the investigation." The Soviets said any other proceeding of elaboration would contradict the Chicago convention.

Mr Van Zyl said the pilot, co-pilot, flight engineer and navigator held valid licences. The radio operator held a valid radio operator licence and graduated top of his class in 1985 the fourth ATC course conducted by the Mozambique Natio[illegible]School of Aviation.

"Service records revealed that the aircraft was properly maintained prior to the last flight. According to the digital flight data recorder information the aircraft and all its systems operated normally," he said.

The weather was fine and the pilot of a Boeing 737 which landed at Maputo at 4pm reaffirmed this. The accident took place at night, a few minutes before moon rise. "Once the plane, Charlie 9-Charlie Alpha, passed Masivingo there were no further aids to navigation before Maputo," Mr Van Zyl said.

English was used to communicate — a language in which both Aerodrome Flight Information Service (AFIS) operator and pilot were conversant. "While radio communications were normal there were certain perceptual difficulties experienced in getting the correct message across," Mr Van Zyl said.

When the crew was unable to see the runway lights the radio operator asked the AFIS operator to "check" his runway lights. The AFIS operator responded with a clearance for a visual approach and increased the intensity of the runway lights. "At no stage did the AFIS operator actually inform C9-CAA that the runway lights were working," the court room, crowded with journalists, heard.

South African accident investigators arrived at the scene of the crash the next day, October 20, at 8:30am but because of an "emotionally charged atmosphere" were not allowed at the site. "The president of Mozambique had been killed. The police were there in full force, Mr Pik Botha was there and Mozambican delegates were there. We were told not to proceed to the site until the political situation had cleared up," Mr Van Zyl said.

Colonel Desmond Lynch, who made a study of the cockpit voice recorder (CVR), delivered to the inquiry a transcript from Russian of the CVR. Instruments removed from the wreckage were reconstructed in the court room which Col Lynch used to demonstrate part of his evidence.

He said there appeared to be some stress in the cockpit — the captain was concerned about fuel. He also referred to the captain ordering "right throttle reduced left engine needed to retain cabin pressurisation for passenger comfort." "There was no need for this unless he was descending," Col Lynch said.

About 10 minutes before the crash the co-pilot commented, "Why are those two (lights) lit and these two (lights) not?" "I find it difficult to believe they would comment on a normal situation," Col Lynch said.

The panel was sent to the South African Bureau of Standards.

The board members are Chairman Mr Justice Cecil Margo, Mr Geoffrey Wilkinson, Sir Edward Evelsigh, Col Frank Borman, Mr Jaques Germishuys and Mr Peter van Hoven. The inquiry continues tomorrow.

Flight's Final Moments Noted

MB201805 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1753 GMT 20 Jan 87

[Text] Johannesburg Jan 20 SAPA — The inquiry into the air crash that killed President Samora Machel today heard evidence of the final words of the flight's crew, which said systems were not working and the plane had nowhere to go. The final words before impact, which were recorded on the cockpit voice recorder, were those of the navigator and pilot. "No. No. There's nowhere to go," the navigator said in Russian. "No NDB's (Non-Directional beacons), there's nothing."

The pilot responded: "Neither NDB'S nor ILS (Instrument Landing System)," a transcript of the cockpit voice recorder, said.

Of the 44 people aboard the VIP aircraft, 34 died including president Machel, 53.

The pilot reported to Maputo information that 48 people were on the flight. He and other victims of the crash were badly mutilated. It crashed on October 19 near Mbuzini, near Komatipoort, 200m within South African territory. Moments before the plane crashed, the pilot told the crew: "There is no Maputo."

Counsel addressing the six-man inquiry sitting in the Rand supreme court building today, Mr C. Puckrin, SC [Senior Counsel], called the first witness. He was Mr Renier van Zyl, director of aviation safety in the Department of civil Aviation. Mr van Zyl recounted the aircraft's last moments as set out in the factual report agreed to and signed by South Africa, Mozambique and the Soviet Union last Friday.

The estimated time of arrival from Zambia in Maputo was 19H25. The Aerodrome Flight Information Service (AFIS) in Maputo reported no delay was expected. The flight was uneventful that Sunday evening until 18 hours 46 minutes 19 seconds.

Mr van Zyl recounted the crew's final exchange with Maputo ground staff.

The plane, which South African officials believe filed no flight plan, maintained course, with slight lateral deviations of four to six km. A change of heading (direction), confirmed by South African Defence Force radar was not shown on a Mozambique defence radar plot.

As the plane descended towards Maputo, the crew was told to report to the AFIS (Aerodrome Flight Information Service) when they saw the runway lights or when they reached 3000 feet. The pilot told the crew: "There is no Maputo," and commented there was an electrical failure at their destination. "The crew commented on the unserviceability of the VOR (VHF Onmirange), DME (Distance Measuring Equipment) and NDB (Non Directional Beacons)," the report said.

At 19H18 and 24 seconds, the Tupolev reached 3000 ft. It was cleared for an approach by Instrument Landing System (ILS). The radio operator reported the ILS out of order and AFIS replied "affirmative." The plane was cleared for a visual approach.

The pilot remarked "that something was wrong," Mr van Zyl read from the report. The pilot said lights were visible to the right and the co-pilot said the runway was unlit.

At 19:19:50, the radio operator asked AFIS to check the runway lights. The AFIS operator responded with a clearance for a visual approach.

A reserve fuel warning light (24,000kg fuel remaining) went on and remained on for the rest of the flight.

The radio operator asked the AFIS operator to "check" the runway lights again.

At 19:21:02, the terrain proximity alarm sounded when the aircraft was 796 feet above the ground. The alarm remained on for 32 seconds. The pilot "uttered a strong expression" and the rate of descent was reduced.

The AFIS operator once more cleared the flight for a visual approach.

At 19:21:17, the radio operator asked Maputo if the runway lights were out of service. The aircraft continued to descend and the pilot complained it was cloudy. "The AFIS requested him to confirm that the lights were out of service and C9-CAA replied in the affirmative, stating that the lights were not in sight."

AFIS then said the plane should continue.

"The last words recorded by the cockpit voice recorder at 19:21:36 were the pilot and the navigator saying that there were no ILS, no NBD and nowhere to go," the report said.

Mr Puckrin said there was misunderstanding between the Maputan air traffic controller and the aircraft's radio operator. The Russian flight crew maintained radio contact with Maputo until the moment of impact.

Survivors interviewed "confirmed the aircraft was operating normally before impact," Mr Van Zyl said. Survivors said "nothing about the ground around was familiar to them" just before the crash.

Delivering his synopsis before the commission of inquiry, Mr Puckrin said the Tupolev 134A continued flying until it hit the ground. It was common cause there was no question of sabotage or an explosion aboard. He referred to rumours surrounding the crash on October 19 last year. "I believe that the evidence and the facts which you will hear will dispell the rumours," he said. The inquiry must establish the cause of the crash and prevent a recurrence. It will also examine the "survivability" factor — given steps taken to search for and rescue the victims.

South Africa, as the country of "occurrence" of the crash, has the right under the convention of International Civil Aviation signed in Chicago (1944), to hold the inquiry. The USSR, as the country of manufacture of the plane, and Mozambique, as the country of registry, can send representatives. Neither appeared to respond to invitations to do so.

The inquiry was not judicial or quasi-judicial, Mr Puckrin said. It is not bound by the technical rules of evidence. "It is basically inquisitorial, with the six experts able to ask questions of witnesses. They assume an active role in the process of inquiry.

The members are: the chairman, Mr Justice Cecil Margo, Mr Pieter van Hoven, Managing Director of Comair Private Airlines; Sir Edward Eveleigh, former Lord Justice of Appeal of the UK; Mr Geoffrey Wilkinson, retired chief inspector of accidents in the UK Department of Transport; Mr Jacques Germishuys, former commissioner for civil aviation; and US Astronaut, Colonel Frank Borman. All six wore everday clothes and sat together at what is usually the bench.

The venue was crowded with spectators, experts waiting to give their findings, and counsel for the board and government.

There was also a reconstruction of the cockpit of the Tupolev, with scarred metal and instruments taken from the wreckage.

Pressmen were furnished with copies of documents and a glossary explaining technical terms.

Radio Operator Ordered Turn
MB211137 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1133 GMT 21 Jan 87

[Text] Johannesburg Jan 21 SAPA — The radio operator thought the plane was to the left of Maputo and instructed the crew to turn right, Col Desmond Lynch, who made an intense study of the cockpit voice recorder, claimed in the Machel inquiry at the Rand Supreme Court today. Col Lynch said this was not discussed beforehand with the crew.

The Aerodrome Flight Information Service had ealier cleared the plane for visual approach and instructed them to "join position left down wind (turn left)." Shortly afterwards the radio operator requested the plane to "join right down wind (turn right)."

"What right? Wait wait," the pilot said.

The captain, who was very agitated, said: "I understood nothing."

Col Lynch said he believed the captain was referring to the change of direction from left to right. This is why the captain was confused and agitated, he said. The radio operators superiors told Col Lynch in an interview that the radio operator should not have given those instructions.

Col Lynch told the commission that the plane did not decrease speed with descent.

"The pilot did nothing to the controls to slow down the rate of descent despite the sounding of the ground proximity alarm."

The captain made three references to the fact that something was wrong but did not slow down the rate of descent, Col Lynch said.

Col Lynch played to the court a tape recording of the planes last few minutes — music the crew were listening to while in flight could still be heard shortly after impact.

The expert remarked that the voices of the navigator and captain were "very, very calm, almost resigned" before impact. He said this compared with the intensity of their voices a few minutes before they realised there was "nowhere to go".

'Terrorists' Kill 12 Fleeing From Petrol Bombs
MB211001 Johannesburg SAPA in English
0948 GMT 21 Jan 87

[Text] Durban Jan 21 SAPA — Police have launched a massive dragnet for a group of suspected terrorists armed with AK-47 rifles who gunned down 12 people, including seven children, in Kwamakhuta near Amanzimtoti today.

A spokesman for the Bureau for Information in Pretoria confirmed that 12 people had been shot dead in cold blood at about 2am at the home of Mr Willie Ntuli after the house had been petrol-bombed.

Police said that 10 of those killed were: Mr Willie Ntuli, 50, Mrs Phumale Ndlovu, 22, Mr Jaba Ndlovu, 17, Mrs Mbusu Ndwalani, 50, Nunu Ntuli, 7, Mavoko Ntushini, 5, Bashi Ntuzhini, 3, Savile Ntuzhini, 4, Mrs Isabel Kubeka, 50, and Phumsele Ntuzhini, 7. The identities of the other two victims have not yet been established.

The two injured are Mrs A Khumalo, 34, and a girl named only as Nomosado, 10. They have been admitted to the Prince Mshiyeni Hospital at Umlazi.

A 10-year-old boy, Ernest Ntuzhini, whose four brothers and sisters were killed, escaped unharmed.

The Bureau spokesman said AK-47 shells were found outside the house and said that police had not ruled out the possibility that terrorists were responsible for the killings. Early this morning senior police officers were at the scene of the killing and police with tracker dogs were following every possible lead.

It is believed that a group of suspected terrorists in a vehicle were seen near the home of Mr Ntuli shortly before the attack. It is also believed that the house was first petrol-bombed and that as the occupants fled the blazing home the gunmen armed with AK-47 opened fire.

Buthelezi Decries Attacks
MB211108 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1101 GMT 21 Jan 87

[Text] Emandleni, KwaZulu Jan 21 SAPA — Inkatha members were being killed, brutally assaulted and maimed as part of a vast internationally sponsored attempt to make South Africa ungovernable, Chief Mangosuthu Buthelezi said in Emandleni today. He was speaking at a KwaZulu police passing out parade hours after 12 people, including seven children, were slain in the black township of KwaMakhuta, near Amanzimtoti, by gunmen armed with Soviet AK-47 rifles.

Chief Buthelezi said black townships in KwaZulu and Natal were torn with strife because there were those who were doing everything they could to deny black South Africans the right of free political association. Inkatha supporters were being singled out as an attempt to deny them the right to work for the noble ideals which the pro-negotiation and anti-violence organisation served.

The ANC mission in exile, working through surrogates, was trying to tip the scales in favour of violent solutions which would ensconce a Marxist one-party state in South Africa. These "messengers of death in our midst" had many disguises — some as KwaZulu civil servants and teachers and some as doctors, nurses, lawyers and church pastors. Others put on the trappings of trade unionists interested in workers rights.

This made the police peace-keeping task that much harder, he said.

The ANC had infiltrated the South African Police, the South African Defence Force and the security police and Chief Buthelezi had information that part of its well-defined strategy was to infiltrate the KwaZulu police. Members of the KwaZulu police came from a warrior nation which would back them in the difficulties lying ahead. "But," he said, "I must warn you that I and your superiors will be totally intolerant of any members of the KwaZulu police force who turn into bullies, lauding themselves over their fellow human beings."

Chief Buthelezi said he had the highest regard for General Johan Coetzee both as the SAPS highest ranking officer and as a fellow South African. The fact there had been some "hideous" actions by certain police over the years did not detract from this. There would be absolute chaos if officers did not maintain law and order.

"And yet" he said, "there are members of the SA police who have tried to buy popularity with the political organisations committed to making South Africa ungovernable by not arresting members of the UDF and the ANC when they have maimed and killed Inkatha members."

Some had been punitive towards Inkatha members who had retaliated in self-defence, he said.

'Permanent Restrictions' on Township Funerals

MB210540 Johannesburg SAPA in English
0512 GMT 21 Jan 87

[Text] Pretoria, Jan 20 SAPA — Permanent restrictions on funerals for unrest victims in several Johannesburg townships were issued in Pretoria tonight under an emergency regulation. Soweto divisional police commissioner, Andries van Zyl, made the restrictions applicable in Soweto, Diepkloof, Meadowlands and Dobsonville.

The orders, issued under regulation 7 (1), resemble the "temporary, routine" orders which have often been issued in the past, apparently in respect of specific funerals.

The orders include a ban on:

— Holding a funeral without prior police permission for someone who died during "security action" or unrest;

— Holding a funeral out of doors or using a public address system, and

— Displaying placards or flags.

"Security action" was defined as "any action by a security force or a member of a security force."

New SACP Head; Slovo Becomes General Secretary

MB200909 Umtata Capital Radio in English
0700 GMT 20 Jan 87

[Text] Joe Slovo is no longer chairman of the exiled South African Communist Party [SACP]. Daniel Tlume has taken over the leadership, and Mr Slovo now becomes general secretary.

Information Bureau Issues 19 Jan Unrest Report

MB190733 Johannesburg SAPA in English
0725 GMT 19 Jan 87

[Text] Pretoria Jan 19 SAPA — The following is the Bureau for Information, Pretoria's, unrest report for the period 0001 to 2400 yesterday:

"About 20 black radicals attacked a member of the security forces in Witlokasie, Port Elizabeth, yesterday. The member was seriously injured. No arrests were made and police investigations are continuing.

"Other reported unrest-related incidents comprised isolated stone throwings and petrol bomb attacks on vehicles and private homes. No arrests or injuries were reported in these incidents."

20 Jan Unrest Report

MB200748 Johannesburg SAPA in English
0743 GMT 20 Jan 87

[Text] Pretoria Jan 20 SAPA — Here follows the unrest report from 0001 to midnight yesterday issued by the Bureau for Information in Pretoria:

Isolated incidents of stone throwing and petrol bomb attacks on private homes and vehicles were reported from only four SAP districts during the above period.

No injuries or arrests were reported and damage was minimal.

Report ends.

21 Jan Unrest Report

MB210704 Johannesburg SAPA in English
0659 GMT 21 Jan 87

[Text] Pretoria Jan 21 SAPA — Following is the Bureau for Informations daily unrest report:

"Unrest report 00h01 to 24h00 (20 January).

"Radicals set fire to a private home in Soweto early yesterday morning. A black man sustained burn wounds in the incident and

serious damage was caused to the house. One black man was arrested.

"A black man was arrested in Zwide (Port Elizabeth) after he and a few others hurled a petrol bomb at a security force vehicle. No damage was reported.

"Apart form the abovementioned, unrest-related incidents occured in only three other SAP districts with no injuries or arrests and very little damage being reported."

End report.

Press Comments on Current Issues, Problems

19 Jan Press Review

MB190644 [Editorial Report]

SUNDAY TIMES Approves Indaba Proposals

A page 22 editorial in Johannesburg *Sunday Times* in English on 18 January says that Minister of Constitutional Development and Planning Chris Heunis might first care to consider that the Natal KwaZulu Indaba proposals for a nonracial regional government in Natal "were evolved by Natalians for Natal — it is thus not necessarily (or even conceivably) a trans-Drakensburg export model for instant national application." "Second, the idea of a regional settlement accords entirely with the Government's oft-proclaimed, but seldom applied, principle of devolution of power, rather than merely of functions, to lower levels of government." "Third, the Indaba proposals have been tempered in the hottest of forges — negotiations between equal parties, each with something to lose but more to gain if the initiative succeeds. Such a constitutional model, crafted at the conference table rather than unilateraly wrought by one partisan group, is a precious rarity in our country's history." The paper also believes that the Indaba proposals will "inevitably be drawn into the general election hustings, despite some of its progenitors' rather naive hopes that they will not."

Afrikaner Unity Not To Survive Elections

Martie Meiring writes on the same page that "Afrikaner unity" is not going to survive a four month long election campaign. "If the coming election has sent any clear signals, it is that Afrikanerdom is not a monolith and, in spite of the now accepted prefix of Afrikaner to Nationalist government, the tribe cannot truly call itself a nationalist movement any longer." "What is now being seen in inner circles as the Louis Luyt [founder of *The Citizen* newspaper] statement (claiming that it was a mistake to have voted for the tricameral parliament with the vain hope that a fourth chamber for blacks would follow), is a much more widely held sentiment than most Nationalist politicians want to concede." Meiring says that the "Nationalist hierarchy failed to appease its supporters yelping for reform because it was always trying to placate, or even win over the sulking right." "Afrikaners, in spite of the strong tribal instinct they are apportioned, do not relish the impression that government is pressing ahead with a election by trading on tribal fidelity."

Revolutionary Change To Build 'Nation'

"Within the South African state powerful nationalist movements have competed with each other, and yet, we can still legitimately ask whether there has been, or indeed is, a South African nation," note James Barber on page 23. "The answer must be No," says Barber. "There are still competing nationalisms, but they are in competition. There is no agreement on 'the nation'." However, Barber does believe that there could be a South African nation "but not without what would amount to revolutionary change. That change could come in two ways — either a reversal of the Government's ideas and policies, or a replacment of the existing Government by one committed to building a single nation. I say this in the belief that the creation of a South African nation, comprising all the people, should be based on the existing state. It would be impossible to build a nation with the government opposed to it — that is, with a government committed to sectionalism whether it be for Afrikaners, or whites, or Xhosa, or blacks, or whatever."

Whites, Blacks Victims of Polarization Syndrome

"We are all victims of a polarisation syndrome," says Johann Degenaar, professor of political philosophy at Stellenbosch University. "Government spokesmen use the polarisation model to their own advantage. The reduce our political future to a choice between National Party policy and an ANC/SACP alliance." "Since the Botha government wants to share power without losing control, a democratic dispensation which would lead to a black majority in Parliament is unacceptable. Polarisation talk is a rationalisation of this decision to hold on to power. It also leads to siege politics in which the Government makes use of the state of emergency to control black militancy and hopes to co-opt enough blacks to keep black administration functioning." "Unfortunately many blacks also make use of the polarisation model to their own advantage. They too are unwilling to negotiate, mobilising black opposition in terms of an uncompromising struggle for total power." "The polarisation model hides from our view the fragmentation which exists in white and black politics. A political model which does not take the reality of fragmentation into account, ignores facts and events in favour of self interest, but to the detriment of democratic solutions." "We in South Africa who believe in the real possibility of a middle ground should, on the one hand, use all opportunities to convince the Government that negotiation is a necessary condition for a just society and, on the other hand, to convince revolutionary black leaders that powersharing and compromise is preferable to the uncompromising struggle for total power."

THE SUNDAY STAR Against Unfair Media Treatment

Johannesburg *The Sunday Star* in English on 18 January comments in a page 14 editorial on the government's "failure to treat all sections of the media alike." "Television and radio were not included in the latest Press restrictions. Furthermore, the double standards used in judging publicty relating to the ANC in the print media have been so at loggerheads with logic that rational interpretation of the regulations becomes impossible. Nationalist mouthpiece *Beeld* and the right-wing *Aida Parker Newsletter* have published reports that show an astonishing disregard for the legal meaning of tough Government curbs, raising suspicion that they enjoy some measure of political immunity from the force of the law — if they say the right things." "*Beeld* and the *Aida Parker Newsletter* had no qualms (and apparently no fears of

prosecution) in quoting banned members of the ANC. Their reason was clear to see. They saw the opportunity to use proof of the worst side of the ANC as a stick with which to beat that organisation and, in the case of *Beeld*, to embarrass the United States Government for agreeing to talk to the ANC." "By the way it uses its extreme emergency powers, the Government demonstrates its contempt for democracy and the rule of law, and for people it governs."

Marais On Governmnt Failure

In the first of a series of articles on how South Africa's leaders of all major political parties and movements see this year's elections, carried on page 15, HNP leader Jaap Marais says: "There are three issues that will dominate the coming elections campaign: the failure of the Government's foreign policy; the failure of its economic policy and the failure of its race relations and constitutional policy." "The Government now resorts to means of suppression to cover up its mistakes and its inability to handle the situation by its ineptitude." "The HNP is rather sceptical about the timing of the introduction of the repressive measures. Acting as it did so shortly before the announcement of a General Election, the Government most probably wanted to create the image of strong Government intent in dealing with trouble-makers. This is a political stunt often employed by the Government since 1970 in order to hoodwink voters on the Right." "The Botha Government has allowed South Africa to be placed on trial by its adversaries, and from the bench of the accused to answer their charges. Concessions and appeasement by the Botha Government have not made friends for South Africa, but have impaired and practically destroyed our national self-respect. We are now faced with threats of increasing economic sanctions if we do not immediately bow to the demands made by the so-called friends. This is a direct result of the Government's failure to stand up and assert South Africa's right to govern itself." Marais believes that the financial straits in which the country is at the moment is due to: "A Government which lives beyond its means"; "using inflation of the money supply as a means of financing its deficits and as a means of transfering income and wealth from the white population to non-whites"; "failure to introduce general price control"; "allowing interest rates to rise to unprecedented levels"; and "shifting the burden of taxes from gold mines and companies to individual taxpayers." "These are some of the facts on which the HNP will tax the Government in the Election campaign."

HNP Rejects Indians, English

In a column on the same page general secretary of the HNP Louis Stofberg says: "It has never been HNP policy to simply 'drop' English as an offical language." "Only when the white nation has achieved a higher level of bilingualism will we begin to take steps towards fulfilling the ideals of Afrikaans as the national language of South Africa, because we sincerely believe that, as was the case with the Republic, the national flag and Die Stem [national anthem], it will unite the white groups into a single nation." Concerning an allegation that it is HNP policy that "'the Indians must return to India,'" Stofberg says the Indian community "cannot be regarded as indigenous in the sense that the black nations, colored people and white nation are indigenous to South Africa. India is hostile towards South Africa and will, as in the past, continue to use the Indian community to further its specific power interests on the continent of Africa. We are not prepared to assist them in this regard. We fully appreciate that there is no question of repatriating the Indians in present circumstances, but should such a scheme at any time become feasible, we will be prepared to support it."

THE SUNDAY STAR: Criticism of NP Lack of Policy

Political correspondent David Breier says on page 15 of the *The Sunday Star*: "Opposition parties, this week preparing their election strategies, have come face-to-face with a major obstacle — the Nats have no policy for them to attack on the most crucial issue of all: black participation in government. Instead of attacking Nationalist policy as in previous elections, opposition parties will find themselves attacking the Government's lack of policy on this crucial issue for several years, according to opposition spokesmen." HNP leader Jaap Marais "pointed out that the Government had for some time been hiding behind its claims that it was n negotiation with unnamed black leaders and therefore could not present a policy for black participation. Mr Marais said the Government would continue to prevaricate during the election campaign because it would shed support either to the Left or the Right if it spelt out a policy for blacks." "Opposition, said the PFP, would attack the Government's performance rather than ask the Nats to spell out their policies. On Black political rights the Government had suspended its National Council Bill and it now had no programme. 'If the Government does not have a policy after 39 years in power, it will never have one' says PFP leader Colin Eglin."

Qwelane Criticizes Bantustan Subservience

On page 18 Jon Qwelane says in his "Just Jon" column: "If anybody still doubts the destabilising role that South Africa plays in this part of the world, they need look only at the difficulties being deliberately created for a neighboring state by one of apartheid's bastard children, Bophuthatswana." We are now witnessing "kind of blackmail" on Botswana, "though it is ostensibly being carried out by the 'independent republic ' of Bophuthatswana." "Since the beginning of last week, trains have been running erratically between Botswana and Mafeking because the bantustan insists all Batswana entering the dubious 'republic' must be in possession of visas." "The apartheid Government is steadily bringing Botswana to heel, and in the wings waits Bophuthatswana, hoping to pick up the crumbs of 'recognition' after its masters have effectively sorted out Botswana. The agony Botswana is being deliberatly subjected to right now, once more demonstrates just how evil and absolutely a godless system apartheid is."

DIE VADERLAND: Tutu His Own Enemy

Johannesburg *Die Vaderland* in Afrikaans on 16 January says in page 12 editorial that Archbishop Desmond Tutu's "freedom of speech and movement is clear evidence that the government has good judgment in this matter." "Take away his passport and silence him, then he becomes a martyr. Now in Australia, he is exposed to public contempt for his racist comments and his increasing defence of violence. The longer he continues with his campaign, the more reckless become his speeches. It may be out of frustration because of negligible world reaction, or because he may want to tempt the government to act against him. Whatever the case it doesn't matter. The important thing is that by his own words he is proving who he really is. It is a pity that this cannot

also happen with the ANC."

20 Jan Press Review

MB200644 [Editorial Report]

THE CITIZEN on U.S. Sanctions Hypocrisy

"What a bunch of hypocrites! The United States imposes sanctions against South Africa and then exempts South African strategic minerals because they are essential to the U.S. economy or defence," says Johannesburg *The Citizen* in English on 19 Janaury in its page 6 editorial. "The Americans are very adept at punishing others provided they do not suffer themselves, so we should not be suprised that they are saving the jobs of Americans while not caring a damn about South Africans who lost their jobs because of sanctions." "Do you wonder why we are so contemptuous of a country that strikes moral poses and then protects its own interests against the consequences? Fortunately for the U.S. despite the harm sanctions are causing this country, South Africa is unlikely to deny the Americans the strategic minerals they need."

BUSINESS DAY on Motor Industry

A page 4 editorial in Johannesburg *Business Day* in English on 19 January says South Africa's motor industry "today is a very different one from that of a decade ago." The industry is down to 23 locally manufactured models made by seven manufacturers. But, "the rationalisation process, which began within the last five years with a number of mergers and withdrawals from the industry, has still got some way to go." Soaring prices, however, will act as a severe constraint on the industry. Already it is apparent that owners are making cars last longer (The replacement of only 15 percent of the car population last year implies a car life of 20 years as against the previous norm of 11). Possibly more important than any further rationalisation, therefore, is to bring inflation under control — and this necessitates a steady or even rising rand."

Owen Criticizes Lack of Foreign Policy

Ken Owen says on the same page: "As we go into an election campaign, public debate on our foreign relations is quickly degenerating into a mindless, anti-intellectual atavism. It really is apalling when foreign policy is presented, with self-justifying glee, as a matter of whether Archbishop Desmond Tutu was heckled in Australia, or whether the U.S. was embarrassed by a bellicose statement (censored in this country) from the ANC's military leader, Joe Modise. And it really is a pity that Foreign Minister Pik Botha should be leading the charge." "One must assume that he knows, when he flails at the Americans, that he is choosing the wrong side of history. To quarrel with the Americans is to quarrel, in the end, with the Israelis and the British and the Germans and the Japanese and Taiwanese, all of whom are dependent on the U.S. for survival and welfare." Owen further says "not since the 1980's, I believe, has any government led us into such grave danger as the belligerent and short-tempered President Botha has done. Where is he leading us, and what is his policy? The truth is, there is no policy. That is why the debate has been taken straight into the gutter from the very start of the campaign. The loud abuse covers intellectual bankruptcy."

CAPE TIMES on Civil Servant Preelection Pay Increases

Cape Town *Cape Times* in English on 16 January says in a page 6 editorial: "Incredibly, we believe, pressure by the Public Servant, Association for a 15 percent pay rise is reportedly considered as a fait accompli by government sources who indicate the R1.5 bn cost is a necessary pre-election 'sweetner' for a substantial proportion of voters. Considering that it amounts to buying power, the price is probably cheap as far as government is concerned." "If a recent Assocom [Association of Chambers of Commerce] survey is anything to go by, and it should be, civil servants have enjoyed pay increases in excess of the inflation rate over the past ten years." "The vast private sector wants a prosperous, equitable South Africa as badly as anyone in government." "Being outside government's increasing largesse, the private sector cannot afford to have its limited resources further diminished. Particularly when the funds being removed for the mooted pay rises must first go through the fingers of a government which does not have a happy record when it comes to financial prowess."

CAPE TIMES on Deteriorating RSA Relations

On page 6 of *Cape Times* John Battersby comments in his "London Dateline" column on the "universal reassessment of relations with South Africa," saying that the "increasing hardline by the Botha government" has brought about the "normalization of British and U.S. relations with the ANC, which is now formally recognized on both sides of the Atlantic as a major actor on the South African stage and an indispensable part of any long-term political solution." He notes that "hopes for long-term influence on the Pretoria government have now been turned to the initiative aimed at bolstering the economic and strategic independence of the Frontline states." Battersby believes that if the PFP were to increase its total of parliamentary seats, even from 27 to 35, "this would indicate a modest swing to the left and would increase pressure on the NP government to return to the reformist agenda." "A weakened NP government would also be more likely to want to normalize relations with sympathetic Western administrations/" "a firm signal that whites are not queuing up to file into the Nationalist laager could renew the diplomatic process and, with it, the hope of South Africa being rescued from what seems like an accelerating slide into pariah status."

SOWETAN on Tutu

In the page 6 editorial in Johannesburg *Sowetan* in English on 19 January the paper comments on Archbishop Desmond Tutu's arrival at Jan Smuts Airport after his "controversial Australian tour" saying: "he dismissed the so-called widespread hostility he got from certain quarters by saying: 'my visit was fabulous and heartwarming.'" "We are happy that this turbulent cleric had such a successful trip in Australia. We hope that those who have rather petulantly tried to show that he was under serious pressure from Australians will have the courage to change their views. We have all the confidence in Archbishop Tutu and we believe he has been through the mill in so many places and under so much crisis that he can handle those who are always trying to villify him."

Call for Free, Equal Education

On page 7 Aggrey Klaaste says in his "On the Line" column that "some rich black people who have been allowed to spring them-

selves from the Beirut-like life of the township, are buying houses in wealthy white suburbs." "My point is, if the Government is well aware that black children are cheerfully going to school with white kids, albeit in private schools, why is it so difficult to make education one single entity for all? The fears that whites here have phantoms of their own making. Probably caused by guilty consciences." "If Mr Botha told his men to make a declaration next week that education will be free and equal, they would have sorted out half the problems of the country. The other problems will simply fall by the wayside."

BEELD: Economic Grievances To Affect Elections

"Reports indicate that the NP expects the strongest attack since its coming to power in 1948 from the 'right' in the coming elections," says correspondent Dawie in the "From My Political Pen" column on page 8 of Johannesburg *Beeld* in Afrikaans on 17 January. "Regions that will be particularly affected will be the Transvaal rural areas, the Rand and Pretoria, the Orange Free State and the north and eastern Cape. The struggle will be even more intense if it is coupled with economic grievances." "A positive economic program from the government will be an important factor in the elections. It can help to avoid the joint attack from the ultra rightists and the far leftists — two opposite poles which are counting on each other to weaken the government, regardless ot the results. Such dangerous cooperation must not be aided by economic factors."

U.S. 'Selective Morality' Criticized

A page 6 editorial in Johannesburg *Beeld* in Afrikaans on 19 January comments on the U.S. abolishment of its previous ban on certain minerals from South Africa. The paper calls this "selective morality." "While the U.S. government has now come to face this South African reality it should imagine what the postion would be had South Africa been in enemy hands — such as those of the communist controlled ANC. Where would the U.S. then get its strategic minerals from?"

RAPPORT: Democracy Opposed, Urged

Page 11 of Johannesburg *Rapport* in Afrikaans on 18 January carries two opposing articles on the question of democracy in South Africa. In the first, Otto Krause says: "One notes with concern the increase in the belief that only complete democracy can save South Africa: that is the only thing that will reconcile black and white." Krause says that Afrikaaners "should know better from their own experience. It is precisely on moral grounds and in terms of our responsibility towards our developing fellow South Africans that one objects to this call for complete democracy. Our consolation is that the majority of our people instinctively reject that idea. The reasons are clearly found in our history and in the fact that nations will not easily bow down before others." "To reject complete democracy in this stage of South Africa's development is absolutely right on moral, proven and practical as well as political-historical grounds." Krause also notes an economic reason for the rejection of complete democracy. "If you practise complete democracy which allows an under-developed majority of the population to benefit from the income of the rich by means of taxation, then capital is not saved for the expansion of industry. You get hardly any economic growth, and after the division of wealth, the poor remain poor." "If we want to act morally responsible for all, and keep promises, then we should limit our democracy — in whatever manner — to people who will not throw away benefits."

Professor Marinus Wieschers of the University of South Africa says in his article that the irony is that the realities in South Africa are ignored. "We have already had, for many years, an authoritarian system which protects the continued existence of a poltical institution with a complex network of security laws. It limits the participation of the majority of citizens in public life, regulates the economy, strains the private income of the population to the limit through taxation, controls the lives of people and has had to create a state machinery to control, prescribe and punish." "Our country is experiencing a legitimacy crisis; the world and many South Africans doubt the right of existence of the government, its laws and institutions" "Only the belief in and the actual extension of a complete participatory democracy without the stain of racism, can bring an end to our legitimacy crisis. Democracy has a healing effect because it recognizes the basic rights of people and their right to political participation." "We all know that the future involves the role of whites and other minority groups. Fears about black majority governments and a take over of power are not going to offer a solution. The legitimacy crisis has to be solved. This crisis can only be solved through the destruction of racism and the extension of democracy."

THE NAMIBIAN on Integrated Schools

The Windhoek *The Namibian* in English on 16 January says in its page 8 editorial that the education minister, Andrew Matjila's, "promise last year of integrated schools, and the interim government's stated commitment to this goal, have not been realised. Proclamation AG [Attorney General] 8, making provision for 'ethnic' government, is still firmly in place; and so too, the Population Registration Act. Mr Matjila, as a socalled 'minister', should be well aware that the discriminatory education system in this country cannot be changed, until the relevant legislation is scrapped." "Perhaps the whole unsavoury incident and worldwide propagandistic announcements that 'Schools are open', should show this interim government once again that they should not promise what they cannot deliver."

Press Restrictions Likely

Gwen Lister says in her "Political Perspective" column on page 7: "Appeals which may be levelled at the South African Government in an attempt to change the status quo as far as segregated education is concerned, will in any case fall on deaf ears. This Government, in seeking once again the white mandate of that country, will certainly not agree to change in Namibia which may cause a backlash in its own electorate." Lister notes that it is likely "that because of the lack of movement towards change in Namibia, the interim government itself will increasingly be faced with criticism and may try to resort to measures against the press, similar to those introduced in South Africa." Lister further says that "indeed it must be a hard task for those members of the interim government, who were formerly critics (in many cases very outspoken critics) of the South African government, to justify their present alignment" with the South African Government. "They ostensibly joined the interim government because they wished to effect change in the absence of the implementation of the U.S. settlement plan. In nearly two years of rule, they have failed to effect a minimum of change in this country, and have failed to reach their committed aim of unity and reconciliation among the population. Is it not time they

admitted that they have failed?"

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THE CITIZEN Criticizes NRP-PFP Alliance

A page 6 editorial in Johannesburg *The Citizen* in English on 20 January comments on the New Republic Party [NRP] and PFP alliance and the subsequent resignation of 12 NRP leaders in Natal. The paper says the PFP "was so keen on an alliance with the New Republic Party that it did not anticipate hastening the NRP's death." "Most of the NRP's members are moderates or conservatives, and they would never accept the Left-wing PFP as a suitable partner in fighting a general election." The two parties also "have very little in common other than that they both oppose the NP," and "an alliance of convenience rather than one of principle is bound to fail." "The PFP will be in alliance with a broken down party that refuses to die, but is already in the last throes of its existence. Unfortunately, instead of dying with dignity, faithful to its principles and proudly espousing its cause to the end, it is dying in confusion and controversy."

THE STAR Supports NRP-PFP Alliance

"The last constructive gesture the New Republic Party and its supporters can make to South African politics is to ensure the Nationalists [NP] do not win seats on a split vote," says Johannesburg *The Star* in English on 20 January in a page 12 editorial. "Members of the NRP have not had an easy decision to make. The party existed because of clear policy differences with both the PFP and the Nationalists. Now, with the party foundering, the need to look for another political home is at hand. The NRP's leading role in the Natal Indaba, and the common ground it began to find there with the PFP, paved the way for the pact. It now remains for the NRP and its supporters to face a final choice. Some may go to the National Party, which is and always has been their real spiritual home. The rest should realise that lukewarm reformism is not enough, and find the courage to accept that, despite past differences, their future lies with the PFP. The pact should reflect that thinking."

BUSINESS DAY on New Political Alignment

A page 6 editorial in Johannesburg *Business Day* in English on 20 January says: "Beneath the pre-election posturings it is possible to discern the outlines of a new political alignment in white politics. The present alignment, based on the dominance of the National Party, has become illogical and transitional." At one end of the spectrum stands the CP "the true voice of the old, pre-reform National Party." "The CP promises to lead an Afrikaner electorate back to the promised land of apartheid, now lost to the reforms of President Botha." The NP on the other hand, "nominally at the centre of white politics, has become a portmanteau for a wide range of irreconcilable ideas." "The need to find an alternative to both the atavism of the CP and the mindless churning of the NP has developed enough urgency to bring the progressive Federal Party and the New Republic Party (or at least the main elements of both) into an election pact." However, the NRP-PFP pact has "generated some strains," but it is hardly surprising "considering the bitterness of the long fight between the two parties; nor is it surprising that some NRP members, when the chips are down, would rather fight against democracy beside white racists than try to create democracy within a national 'Indaba' of blacks and whites."

Barber on Shultz-Tambo Talks

Simon Barber writes from Washington on the same page: "The rationale for Shultz's seeing Tambo is not opaque. Having failed to massage the Nationalist government into relinquishing sole, racially-based authority, it is high time the U.S. paid some attention to the other parts of the equation, including, but not exclusively, the ANC." "On the face of it, the idea of 'testing' the ANC, or 'challenging' it to offer a definitive description of the society it seeks, is a good one. A few hard and fast answers, if such they could be, would be interesting. But let us assume they are forthcoming. Then what? What if they are unsatisfactory? Does Tambo get to sit the exam again?" Barber says "Tambo should have every hope of winning untested in his talks with Shultz because Shultz's department will place far more importance on the continuation of the dialogue, once initiated, than on its content, and because maintaining the dialogue is the line of the least resistance. It preserves the illusion of a policy without any tough decision ever having to be made."

SOWETAN on Preregistration Indemnity Forms

"The controversial Department of Education and Training directive that forced parents to sign forms indemnifying the Government in the event the pupils died in Government vehicles will happily no longer be enforced," says Johannesburg *Sowetan* in English on 20 January in its page 6 editorial. "We do not necessarily know the facts, but we are sure that white parents would have kicked up a storm if they were forced to sign forms, any forms, before their children got a place in public schools. As taxpayers we believe most parents have the right to expect the department and its officers to look after children when they are placed in their care."

DIE VADERLAND on U.S. Sanctions

"As the old saying goes: the Americans are busy giving their dirty politics a bad name," says a page 10 editorial in Johannesburg *Die Vaderland* in Afrikaans on 19 January. Referring to the abolishment of previous bans on South African minerals, the paper says the U.S. "action in the sanctions measures against South Africa is not only proof of their distorted morality, it is simply detestable." "If Minister Pik Botha does say, as he did recently, that that country's credibility is busy collapsing, then he is stating the problem fairly sympathetically."

BEELD Urges NRP To Join NP

Johannesburg *Beeld* in Afrikaans on 20 January says in a page 8 editorial: "We can understand why many NRP's prefer a home in the NP's reform politics to one in the PFP, with its dangerous left wing (one is tempted to almost says UDF wing). The NRP was always a moderate party with no associations with leftist radicalism. Therefore we hope that most NRP supporters will follow the example of the 12 Durban members and will help the NP in its next governing period." To those NRP's who believe that they "can remain out of it, in superior neutrality," the paper says "you will quickly become useless and forgotten. While your party is busy crumbling now before the election, a proper decision has to be taken about active particiapation, so that the new

republic can be created."

Mugabe Sanctions Calls Condemned

A second editorial on the same page says: "In a recent disclosure of the mentality of one of Africa's leaders, Mr Robert Mugabe explains in an interview how necessary sanctions against South Africa are — and how vital it is that African countries work together towards this. This, while tons of fuel from South Africa are sent to his country to prevent another crisis." "How much poorer must Africa become, and deteriorate, before its Mugabe's learn this age old truth: You cannot live with your head in the clouds and your feet on the ground. Especially not in Africa. Africa — which is already called the starving continent — urgently asks its leaders to stop wasting precious time, money and energey on senseless and destructive plots to harm one another."

DIE TRANSVALER on NP Election Stance

A page 18 editorial in Pretoria *Die Transvaler* in Afrikaans on 19 Janaury says "it is clear that the government, in its earnestness in seeking the best possible solution for the country's relations problems, wants to avoid making promises which it may then not be able to keep — just for the sake of an election." "The NP still has the responsibility of ruling the country after the election. It is for this reason that it cannot promise things that will not be fulfilled. The NP cannot blow hot and cold."

ZIMBABWE

ZAPU Supports Renewal of State of Emergency

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[Text] Harare Jan 20 SAPA — Zimbabwe's House of Assembly today renewed its 21-year-old state of emergency, with the government of Prime Minister Mr Robert Mugabe receiving the backing of Dr Joshua Nkomo's ZAPU, which six months ago voted against the measure.

ZIANA the semi-official news agency reports that the vote in the 100-seat house was 61 in favour and 12 against. All those who opposed the renewal of the emergency were members of former Rhodesian rebel leader Mr Ian Smith's Conservative Alliance of Zimbabwe [CAZ].

Dr Nkomo was not in the house for the vote. But the fact that his MP's voted with Mr Mugabe's ruling ZANU (PF) is a strong pointer to the reported good progress so far in the unity talks between the two parties.

When the state of emergency, which gives the government wide power to deal with any potential threats to national security, was last extended in July, the vote was 57 in favour and 20 against. The opposition at the time was made up of a combination of ZAPU and CAZ MP's.